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HEIDI LEE IN PICTURES

PIN UPS: THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR, MIDNIGHT ROCKERS, RANDY SAVAGE, DAVID SAMMARTINO,

A FINAL FAREWELL TO THE DRAGON: RICKY STEAMBOAT

BRUTUS BEEFCAKE: CUTTING HIS WAY TO FAME

BRITISH BULLDOGS, RIC FLAIR, THE NASTY BOYS

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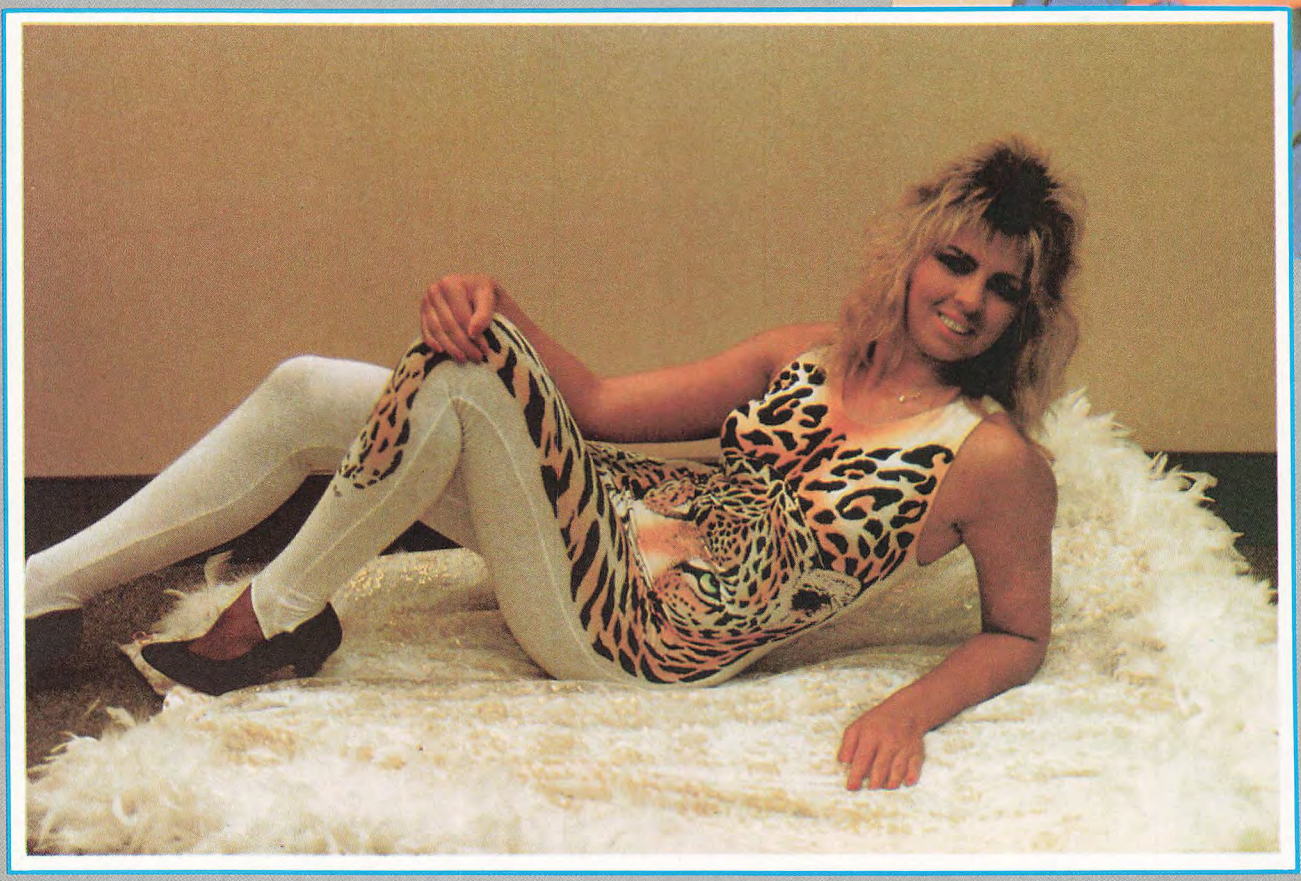

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CONTENTS

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FEATURES

BRUTUS BEEFCAKE: CUTTING HIS WAY TO FAME 6
THE YOUNG STALLIONS: CAN THEY DEFEAT DEMOLITION? 12
RICKY STEAMBOAT: A FINAL FAREWELL TO THE DRAGON 16
BARRY WINDHAM: THE BADDEST HORSEMAN 20
FLAIR VS STING: THE NEVERENDING BATTLE 24
ANDRE AND DUGGAN: BRAWLING OR BORING? 28
BUTCH REED DISAPPEARS INTO THE TWILIGHT ZONE 32
EDDIE GILBERT: THE CWF'S TOP GUN 44
DINO BRAVO: CANADA'S POWERHOUSE 52
HEIDI LEE IN PICTURES 56
INDEPENDENT STARS GALLERY 64
WRESTLING TALK: THE SPORT'S FINEST HOUR 68
WENDI RICHTER: WILL SHE RETURN TO THE MAINSTREAM? 72

PIN-UPS

THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR 2
THE NASTY BOYS 3
IRON SHEIK 4
MIDNIGHT ROCKERS 37
DINO BRAVO 38
RANDY SAVAGE 39
MEAN GENE, JIMMY HART AND HONKY TONK MAN 40-41
THE TWWF DELIVERS! 42-43
LUSCIOUS JOHNNY VALIANT 77
BRITISH BULLDOGS 78
SAMU AND CAPT LOU ALBANO 79
DAVID SAMMARTINO 80
RIC FLAIR 81

DEPARTMENTS

EDITORIAL: THE WWF, WHO ARE THEY KIDDING? 5
PHANTOM OF THE RING 48
WRESTLING EYE PIN UP: MAGNUM TA 58
OFFICIAL RATINGS 60
FAN CLUB COLUMN 62
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 70

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THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

THE NASTY BOYS

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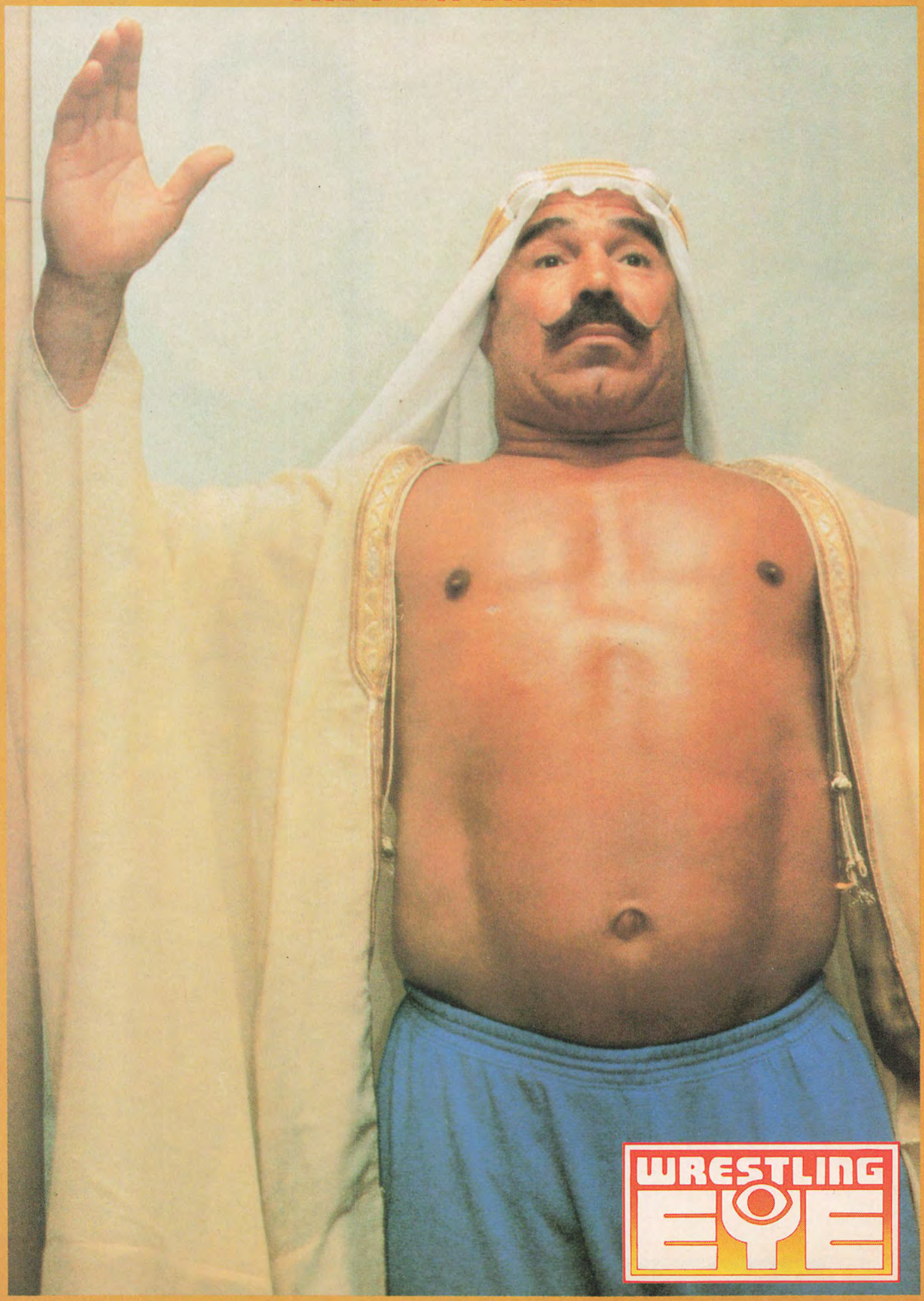


From the Editor's Desk....

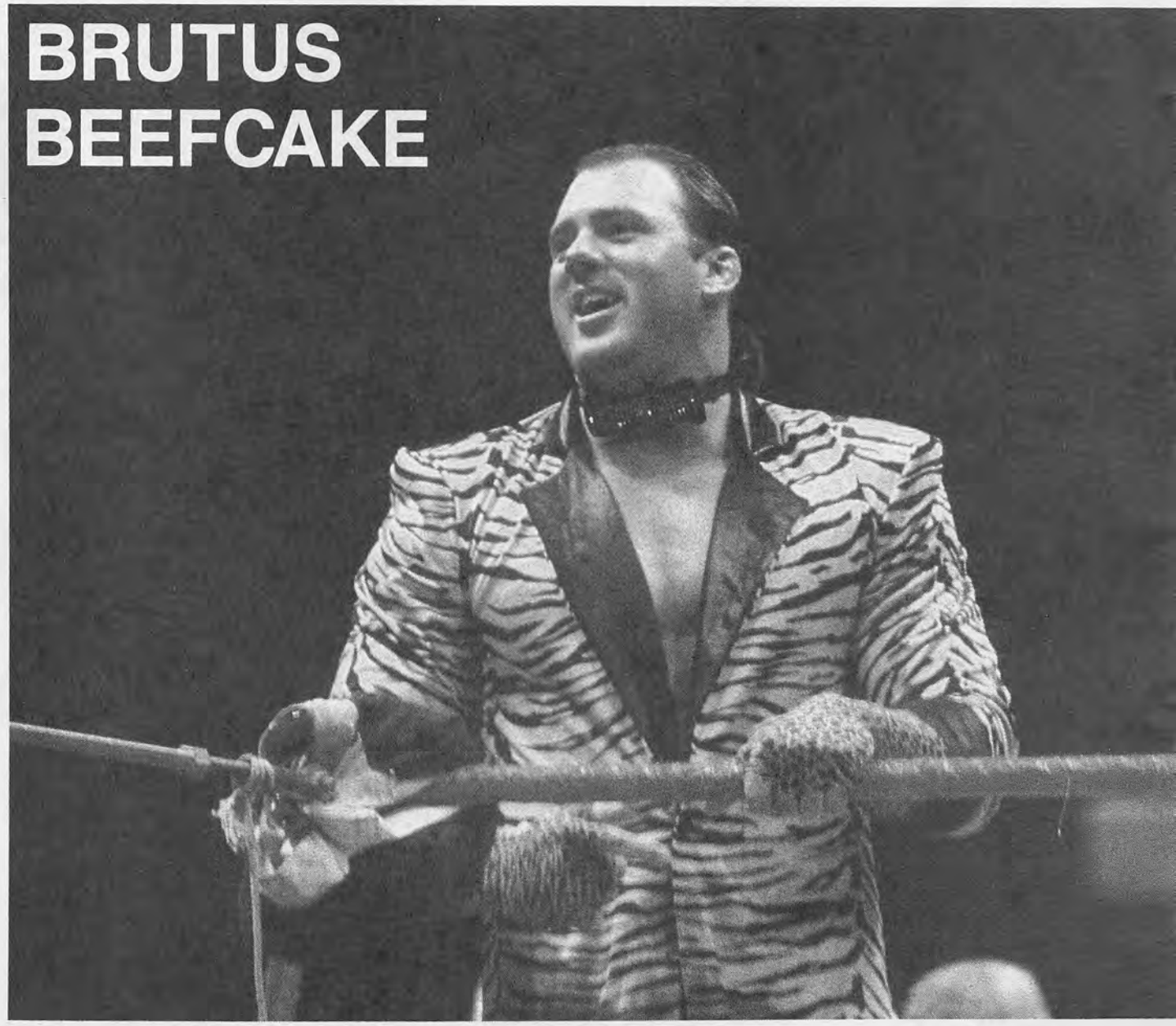
"THE W.W.F.— WHO ARE THEY KIDDING?"

Alright Vince McMahon, you can fool the average 'joe' off the street but not us knowledgeable people. First off Vince, how about this wedding of Randy Savage and Elizabeth. Everyone knows they've been husband and wife for the longest time. Also remember Wrestlemania IV with the final match of Savage and DiBiase? The referee was that 'evil' Earl Hebner, who caused all the controversy earlier. The W.W.F. felt the fans would not know the difference from his brother, Dave. How about you Vince who acts like he's nothing more than a T.V. commentator. Vince, everyone knows that you are the president of the World Wrestling Federation. In fact fans, forget about Ted DiBiase being the wealthiest man in wrestling. Rumor has it Vince is worth close to one hundred million dollars! Enough lies Vince. Set a standard for today's children!!

Carmine

See Ya' At The Matches,
Carmine DeSpirito
Editor

BRUTUS BEEFCAKE



"Cutting His Way To Fame"

By Don Liable

It has been ten years since he broke into wrestling. Like a well oiled machine his career has steamrolled, putting him in the elite among active grapplers. Even before he signed on with the World Wrestling Federation to become one of their most highly recognizable competitors, Brutus Beefcake was a winner. The respectability and admiration from the fans, something that is very dear to Beefcake, especially at this point of his career, didn't come right away. It's been a bumpy, often turbulent ride in the wrestling days of Beefcake. Now known as "The Barber", a label he has earned since he began cutting his opponents hair after rendering them unconscious with his sleeper hold, Beefcake is grateful to the select few who assisted him in getting him to the big-time. If he's slowed down a step in the ring, no one has noticed. A great many moments of joy have entered his career. Whatever way you choose to view the happenings of Beefcake, one point can be agreed upon unanimously, it's been entertaining.

These days, when Beefcake struts to the ring with a great deal of confidence, others imply his attitude hints that he is cocky and smug, you would never know that back in 1979 the ring entrance and performance of Brutus was as opposite as one could imagine.

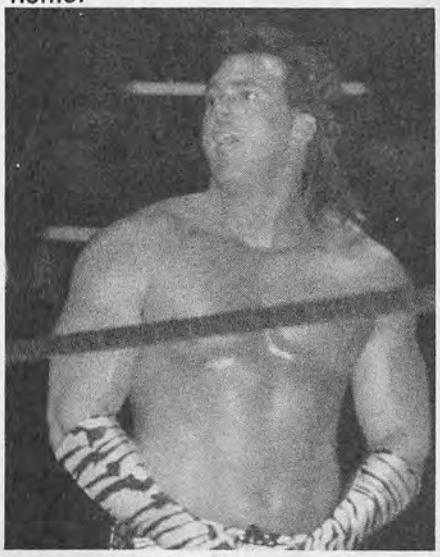
When starting out, Beefcake, whose real name is Ed Leslie, sported long blonde hair and wore fancy robes, like those of Ric Flair. At the time, still trying to find an identity unique from all his other peers, Beefcake's used so many names you would have thought he was avoiding the FBI. After using his given name, he called himself Eddie Boulder, Dizzy Hogan and Dizzy Golden. Dizzy Hogan was the moniker he achieved the greatest amount of success with, up until he settled on Brutus Beefcake. Quite a name game.

After joining forces with another newcomer to professional wrestling, alias Terry Boulder, Terry Hogan, Sterling Golden, finally becoming Hulk Hogan, the duo left their home state and wrestling circuit of Florida for the Memphis,

Tennessee based Continental Wrestling Association. 'Fresh from his training school days, and with less than a dozen matches in the record books, Beefcake and his partner picked on some tough, established boys. 'Terry Gordy and Michael Hayes, The Fabulous Freebirds, feuded with Brutus, as I remember it, almost as soon as he arrived in the area. He told me later on he did so to gain quick recognition from his fellow pros. Beefcake figured if he picked on the toughest guys around and held his own, then he wouldn't become a target for other upstart wrestlers or a doormat to veterans. Brutus Beefcake is a credit to our sport, I'm glad the CWA has had a part in his success', Jerry Jarrett, Memphis Promoter, said from his office in the Mid-South Coliseum.

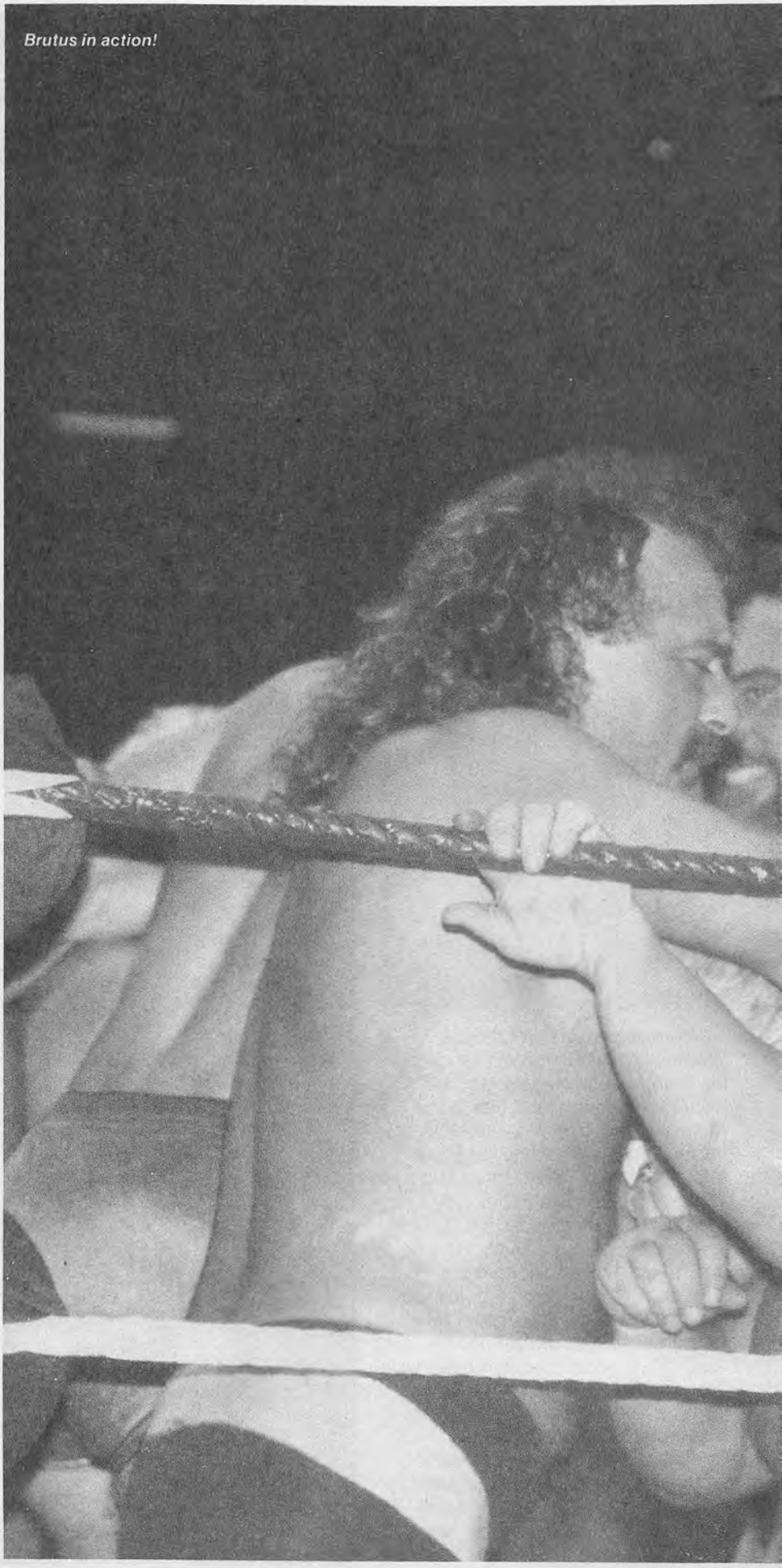
Clad in outrageous outfits, Brutus enters the arena.

Beefcake became a bonafide wrestling personality known throughout North America when he emerged as the protege of Johnny Valiant in the World Wrestling Federation. Let's face it, there are scores of talented wrestlers all over the nation. Unfortunately, many live out a career in obscurity due to the fact that they don't get hooked up with an outfit that can splash their face nationwide, and in some instances on a global basis. Brutus Beefcake has been one of the chosen few that received the opportunity to prove his worth in the ring and as a box-office celebrity, due to the WWF taking a gamble on him. He has taken full advantage of his connections and the rewards, due to his athletic ability and ring savvy, have turned up in aces for Beefcake, who now calls San Francisco, California his home.



Beefcake is a favorite of fans young and old.

The two precious jewels of the WWF's triple crown, minus the heavyweight title, have found their way around the waist of Beefcake. The Inter-Continental Championship and the tag team title, with Greg "The Hammer" Valentine as his partner were captured not by fluke but by perseverance. His well developed muscular body is proof of the hours Beefcake dedicates in keeping up his strength. Brutus has taken full advantage of all the breaks that have come his way. 'When opportunity knocks, you open the door wide and say thank you. Up until I joined the WWF I never had a manager, maybe that was part of my problem in not getting the push I felt I deserved from the promoters. Johnny Valiant



Brutus in action!

The next Intercontinental Champion?

turned my career around and I'm grateful for all his hard work. He is a smart businessman and when he left the WWF, no one missed him more than I. When Greg Valentine and I beat Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo for the tag belts, I hurt after that match for a week. To this day, Barry has been my toughest challenger', Beefcake said before a match in the Utica, New York Memorial Auditorium.

Known as "The Dream Team", Beefcake and Valentine took on some of the best international talent in the sport. The Killer Bees—Jim Brunzell and B. Brian Blair, The British Bulldogs—Davy Boy Smith and The Dynamite Kid, and Billy Jack Haynes and David Sammartino, all top ring duos with impressive credentials, had trouble in attempting to match skills with Brutus and Valentine. 'Those guys were a tough team, no doubt about it. I paired with George Steele one night in Springfield, Massachusetts against "The Dream Team". As unpredictable George is, even he couldn't handle Brutus. "The Hammer" and Beefcake tagged off many times, always appearing fresh when stepping in the ring and were in constant communication with their leader, Johnny Valiant, at ringside. When Brutus hits you, it stings. I don't think the fans realize just how tough and powerful Beefcake is. Hopefully, someday I'll get to revenge that defeat by Beefcake', Tony Garea recalled.

As of late, the "Barber" trademark has really taken off and has been widely accepted by the legions of Beefcake fans. Ask Danny Davis, Jimmy Hart and countless others who have approached Brutus at the wrong place and time at arenas, what kind of haircut they were given. Decked out in a white barber's smock and a large mirror, Beefcake is in constant companionship with a pair of scissors. Also, as an extra added bonus to his fallen foes, after the cut job and before he awakens them to view their new style, he uses a can of spray paint to the maximum, leaving his trademark B on their torso and a few touch up sprays on their heads. If you ever want to see a truly, honest-to-goodness look of disbelief, just watch the reaction of Beefcake's opponents as they wake up and see for the first time their new hairdo. The "Barber" gimmick may not be an actual wrestling hold, however, the kids and a majority of everyone else at the matches seems to enjoy Beefcake's antics. And afterall, isn't entertainment what the grappling game is all about these days?

Wayne Ferris, better recognized as The Honky Tonk Man, is the latest nemesis of Beefcake. The two have been taking their battle all over the country. On network prime-time television and as a featured match up on the WrestleMania 4 extravaganza, Beefcake and Honky Tonk have slugged it out without any clear cut winner as of yet. In most cases, when the two have tested each other's level of endurance, the result has been a double disqualification. Emotions have surpassed the rulebook with the two. Perhaps a cage match is the only sound method of settling the difference between Brutus and Honky Tonk.

Always unpredictable and fun to watch, Brutus Beefcake is an opportunist who continues to stay on top in his craft by adjusting to the ever changing wrestling climate. A crowd pleaser, yes. An athlete, yes. He may not have a championship belt to wear at the present time, however, it's widely accepted that Brutus Beefcake is the People's Champion.

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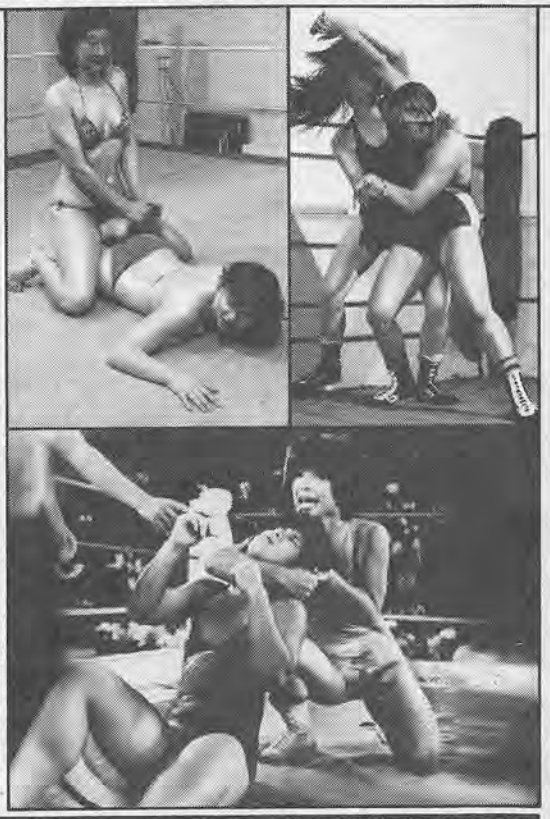
INTERNATIONAL BATTLE ROYAL

Features Jaguar Yokota, "All The Marbles" star Mimi Hagiwara and Omori Yukori vs. the beautiful, but deadly, Devil Masami, Lei Lani Kai, and in a rare stint as a villainess, Irish Velvet McIntyre. Mimi really takes her lumps in this one. **Bout 2.** For the World Championship. Sensational Vickie Williams vs. Jackie Sato. Not only does Vickie choke, gouge and stomp Jackie, she brings her own referee! It's a near riot as these two gals battle for world dominance! **Bout 3.** Jaguar vs. Dallas Cowgirl Wendi Richter in a wonderful matchup, featuring speed and skill vs. brute strength. *#VC-11*

SUBMIT OR SUFFER!

Contains two very **bizarre** matches! In bout #1, Julie and Laurie agree to a match in which only leg hold submissions will determine the winner and they'll fight until one can't continue. The victim is subjected to punishment that is merciless and the gym echoes to cries of pain and screams of submission until one girl cannot continue. In the second bout Penquin and Alison battle furiously. One gains the upper hand and starts punishing her opponent in ways **not** found in the rule book. When it escalates into a brawl, wrestling gives way to chaos! *#RGV-17*



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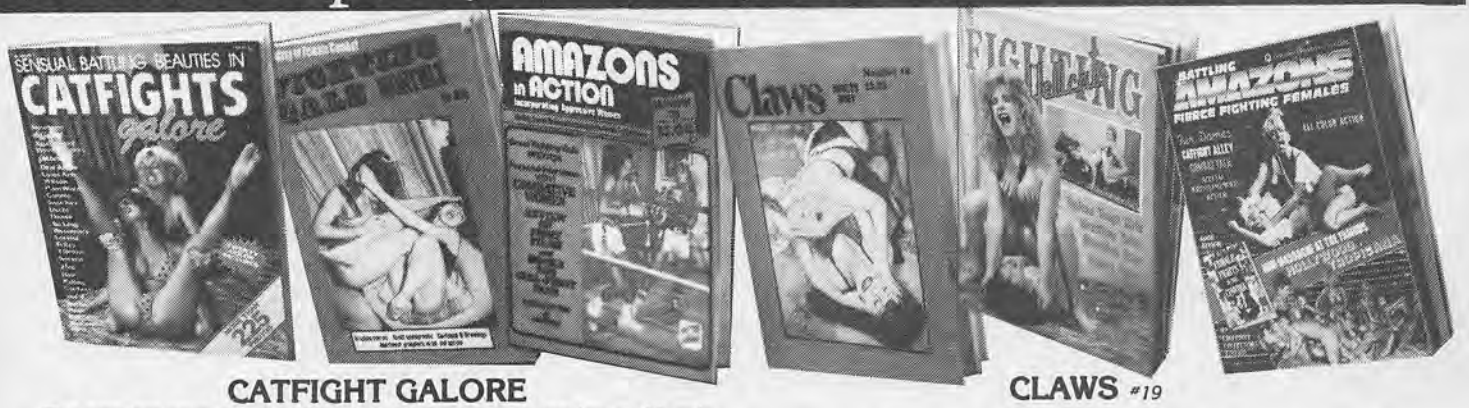

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AMAZONS IN ACTION *#33*

Wrestling and boxing action worldwide: A detailed account of the British WCS tournament, which saw a tough blonde beauty introduce the ultimate in female submission holds! Great coverage of those cute, but savage, Thai kick-boxers! A nine-page, photo-packed piece on the sensational new German Mat Club. The latest on the Japanese women's wrestling scene. All this, plus much, much more!

FIGHTING HELLCATS *#5*

Another color-crammed issue for the discriminating female fight fan! Includes: "Wrestling Twins," "Topless Tough Girls," "Back Breaking Bitch," and the return of Lynn Ann Wilson! All this plus 7 additional sensual and vicious bouts. Also, more from "Casey's Sketchbook," letters from our readers, fabulous fiction and so much more! A must for all catfight fans!

CLAWS *#19*

Brings you the British apartment wrestling scene with fine photo coverage of the latest action among those battling beauties. In "Contenders" you'll read a no-details-spared account of a striptease kick-boxing bout! It matches a beautiful, ruthless Chinese tigress against a muscular German beauty. And there's more — fiction, photos, drawings — awaiting you in this exciting issue.

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TOURNAMENT TIGRESSES

Brings you the final matches of the tournament — and they are 3 gems! The first pairs Alison against June. This match erupts into a brawl before the openning bell sounds. The two girls never let up. Both are tough, strong and merciless. Bout 2 features club champion Lorraine, a tall, powerful beauty, against Suzie who is smaller but no less determined. Suzie gives Lorraine a rough time, but finally the champ exhibits a body scissor that goes beyond being punishment . . . it's paralyzing! The final match pits the champ Lorraine against the former champ Shiela. This is a contest you'll long remember. It's female wrestling at it's finest! *#RGV-4*

BIKINI BOXING & WRESTLING

Features those kinky ladies of the British Isles. Bout one between Lori and Julie starts off as a boxing contest, but things quickly get out of hand and the gloves come off. Body slams and knee drops are used with devasting effect. The action is feverish. Highly recommended! The second encounter pits big Chinky, against trim, but murderous, Wilma in a bikini battle for survival. Both combatants are adept at illegal moves. Neither girl can keep contained in the skimpy bikini. A feast for lovers of violent female flesh! *#RGV-11*

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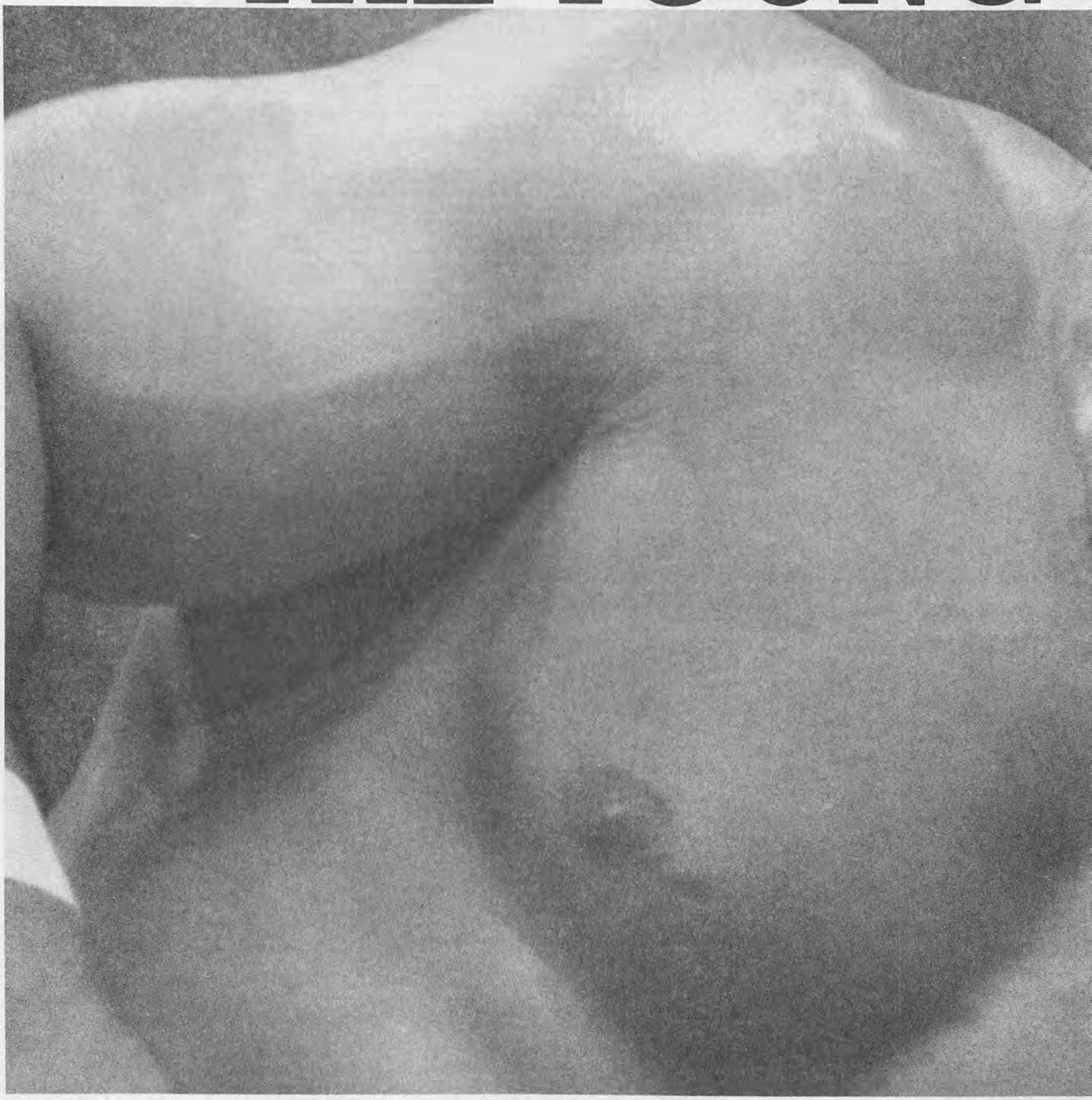


"CAN THEY DEFEAT 'DEMOLITION'?

By Tom Clutters

Many times, youthful wrestlers are referred to as "young lions" in the sport of professional wrestling. The term usually is used to describe someone who, while relatively inexperienced in the business, has shown a great deal of promise and has the potential to be a superstar.

As usual, the World Wrestling Federation has taken a common concept, and given it a new name, and attempted to convince the public that what they are offering is indeed, different. In this case, the talents of Paul Roma and Jim Powers have been combined into a tag team billed as "The Young Stallions". In accordance with WWF policy, the team could not be known simply as Roma & Powers; it had to have a "catchy" name, just like Strike Force, Demolition, the Killer Bees, and the Hart Foundation. Both Roma and Powers

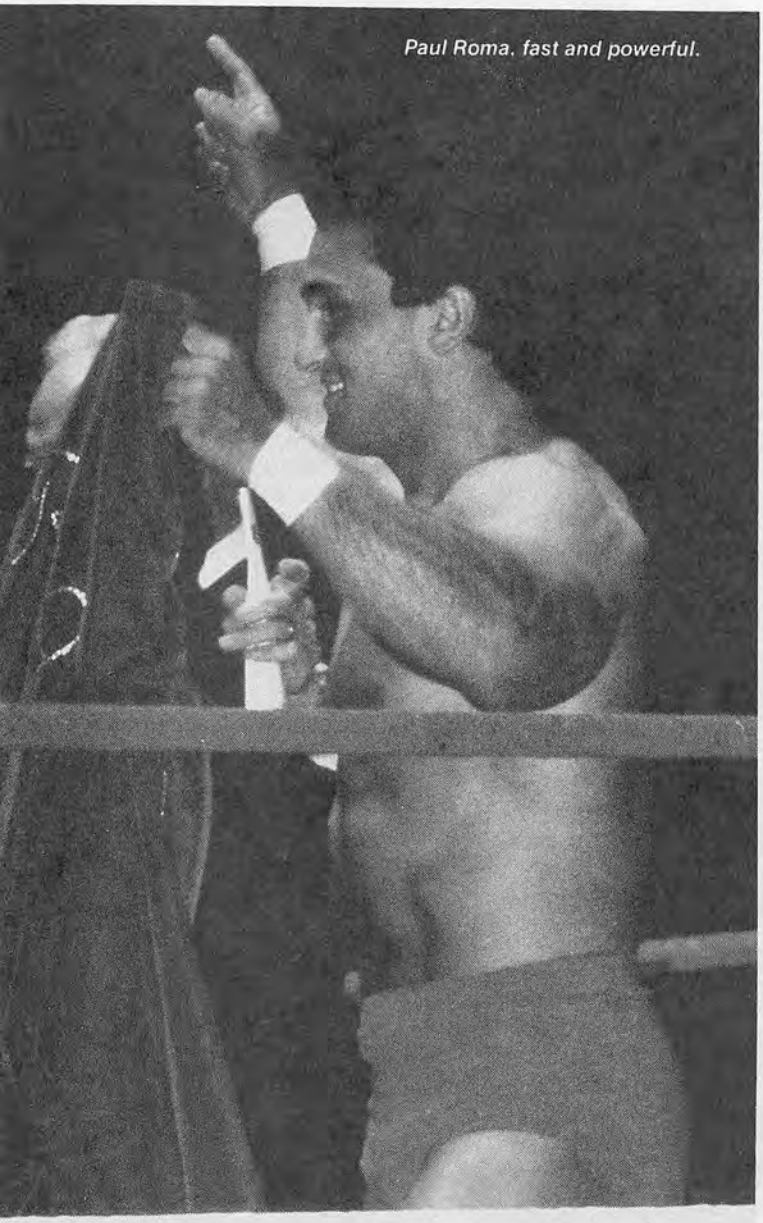
STALLIONS"

Do Roma and Powers have what it takes to be champions?

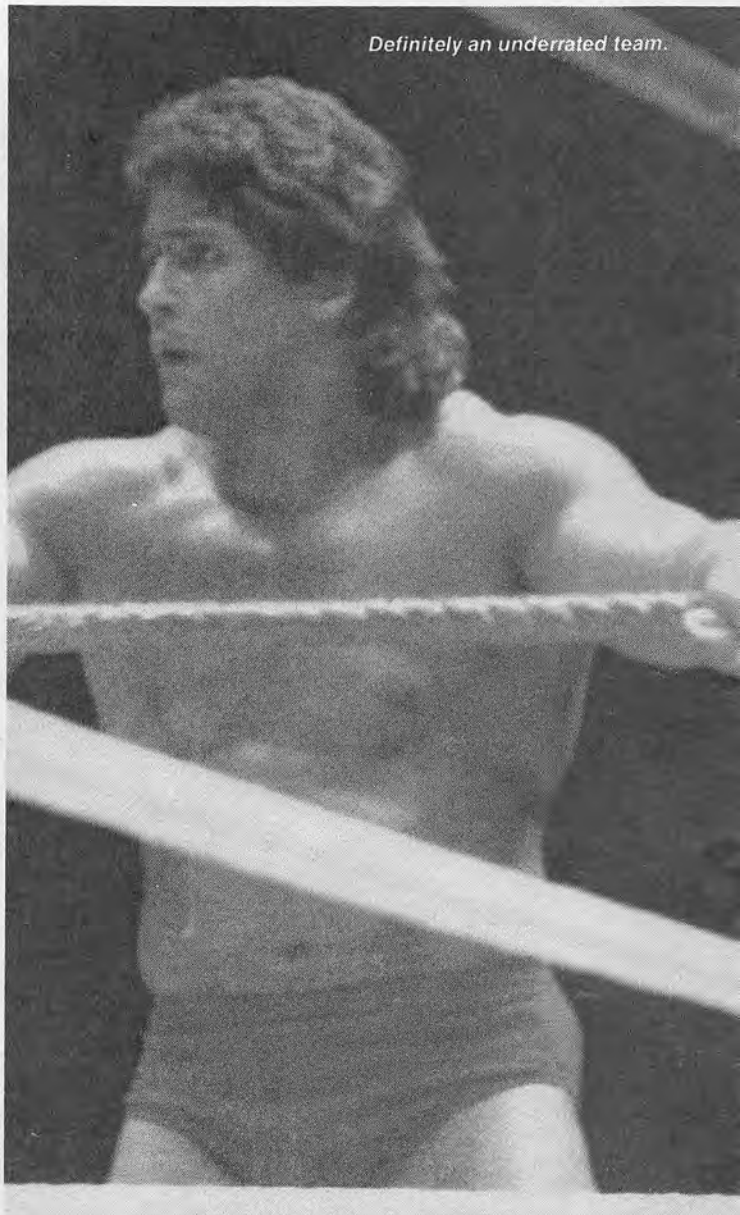
have spent considerable time as preliminary workers in the federation, and when WWF officials decided that it was their time, the push began.

However, as events have developed, maybe the federation has struck gold this time. Paul and Jim have taken the chance for stardom and ran with it, developing their collective talents into a formidable tag team. With several surprising victories under their belts, the Stallions have become a force to be reckoned with on the WWF tag team scene.

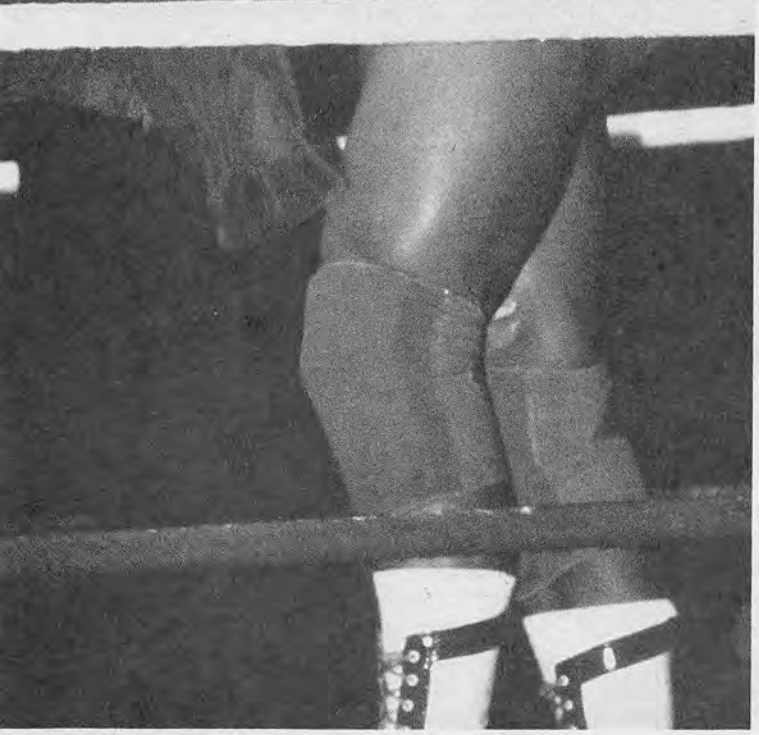
Until recently, both Roma and Powers were labeled as "pretty boys" with considerable talent, but no particular career direction. Roma had tasted some success teaming with S.D. Jones as part of the WWF's overseas contingent, especially in Australia. Powers had stayed at home for the most part, but made his mark by giving some of the federation superstars more than their money's worth. When Roma returned stateside, the two began working out together, and developing a style. After officially becoming a team, they improved their teamwork by taking on vet-

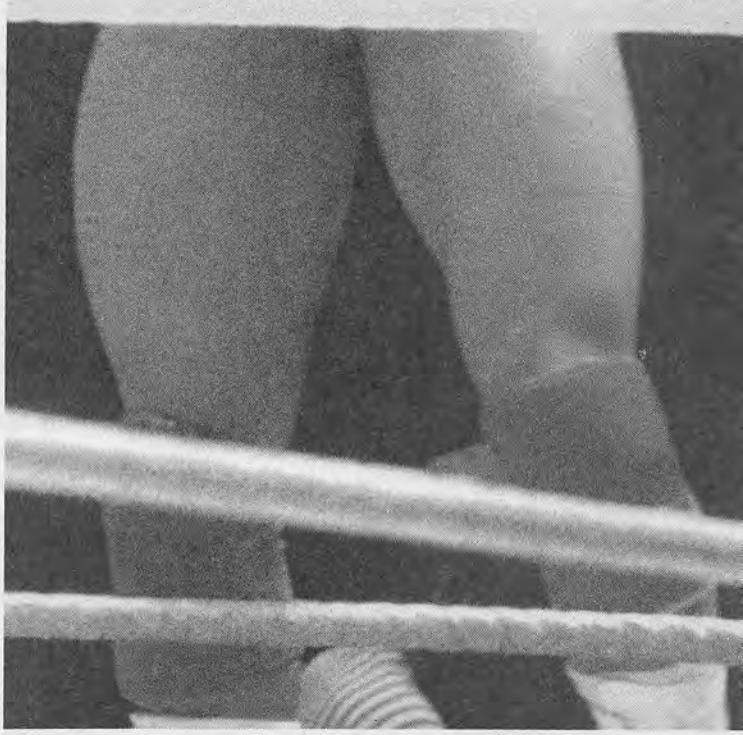


Paul Roma, fast and powerful.



Definitely an underrated team.





Jimmy Powers, youthful and handsome.

eran teams as Iron Mike Sharpe & Steve Lombardi, Tiger Chung Lee & Jimmy Jack Funk, and Terry Gibbs & Jerry Monti. While this type of competition certainly isn't "world class" caliber, it did provide plenty of opportunity to refine themselves. Although they compiled an impressive winning streak, the critics pointed to a lack of quality opposition. "Wait until the Young Stallions have to meet some real men." was heard repeatedly. Then, last July, the Stallions scored a major victory over Magnificent Muraco and Ace Orton in Madison Square Garden. That victory seemed to be the turning point for Roma and Powers, who went on to more major wins, including two more victories over Muraco & Orton. In some circles, however, the Stallions were still taken lightly.

On Thanksgiving night, Paul and Jim found themselves a part of the WWF's "Survivor Series". They were scheduled to team with Strike Force, the British Bulldogs, the Killer Bees and the Rougeau brothers in an unprecedented 20-man tag match against the Bolsheviks, the Hart Foundation, the Dream Team, the Islanders, and Demolition. With so much talent in the ring at one time, many thought that the Stallions would go unnoticed. According to the rules, if a man from a team was eliminated, then his partner must retire also. The match turned out to be the highlight in an otherwise dull show, and a major slice of the excitement was due to the performance of the Young Stallions.

Although both Roma and Powers absorbed quite a bit of punishment, they excelled among their peers. Roma managed to pin Greg Valentine, forcing the Dream Team (Valentine & Dino Bravo) to depart. As the match wore on, both youngsters held their own, and at the end, the Stallions and Killer Bees were the only "survivors". "The Young Stallions didn't only survive, they prospered tonight," said one observer. "This could be the event that pushes them to the top."

Following the Survivor Series, the Stallions began a full-scale feud with Nikolai Volkoff & Boris Zukhov, collectively known as the Bolsheviks. The two Russian strongmen were very adamant about their dislike for the young Americans, and had attacked and interfered in matches involving Roma and Powers on several occasions. "We're not going to take any bull of those two Russians," announced Roma. "We might be smaller than they are, but we're going to show them what Americans are made of, and they're not going to like it."

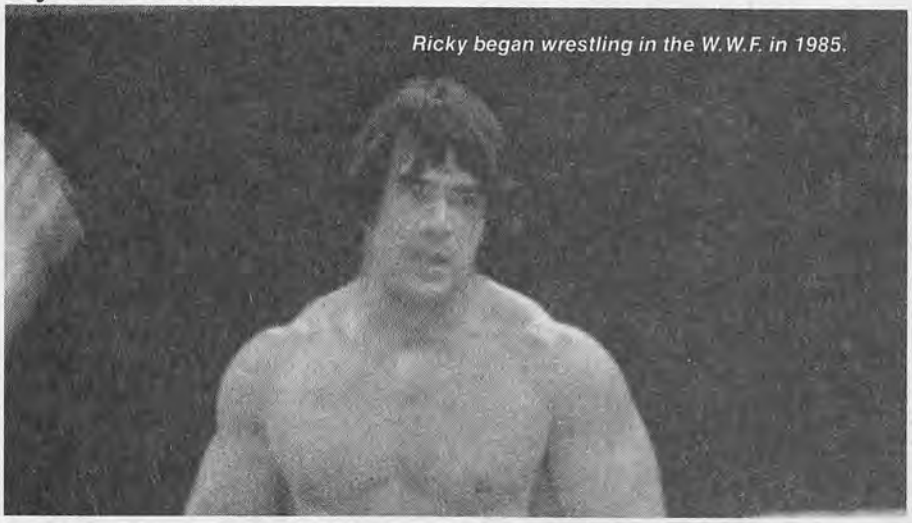
One particular match which took place in Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto was typical of the Stallions/Bolsheviks battles. Roma and Powers began the match by using their speed to avoid the clutches of the Russians. Powers made a distinct impression of Zukhov when, after ducking an elbow thrown by the Soviet strongman, delivered a perfect dropkick which sent Boris sailing over the top rope, and onto the floor. The Bolsheviks gained the advantage soon, however, thanks in no small part to help from their manager, Slick, who tripped Roma with his cane. After about twenty minutes, the match erupted into an all-in war, with everyone in the ring at once. While the referee was busy trying to separate Powers and Zukhov, the Slickster jumped onto the ring apron to smash Roma, who was being held by Volkoff. At the last second Paul ducked, and the cane found its mark on Nikolai's head, allowing Roma to score the pinfall. "I've said all along that the Young Stallions are not good, they are lucky," moaned the Slickster after the match. "My statement was proven tonight. They got lucky, but brother, their luck's gonna run out real soon. You can count on that!"

Having proven themselves to be legitimate contenders, the Young Stallions now have their sights on Demolition, the current WWF title holders. Ax and Smash, however, refuse to be impressed. "We don't have time to worry about pretty boys like them," boasted Smash. "The Young Stallions look real good, they move around real good, and the stupid fans love them. But the awesome force of Demolition and Mr. Fuji cannot be defeated by things like that. The Young Stallions don't have what it takes to be world champions."

Maybe not, but it must be pointed out that Paul Roma and Jim Powers do bear some resemblance to former champs Strike Force (Tito Santana & Rick Martel), and everyone knows how much trouble Ax and Smash have had with them. The brief careers of the Young Stallions have been filled with upsets so far; who can say that the biggest upset of all won't occur in the very near future?

"RICKY "A FINAL FAREWELL TO THE DRAGON?"

By Tom Clutters



Ricky began wrestling in the W.W.F. in 1985.

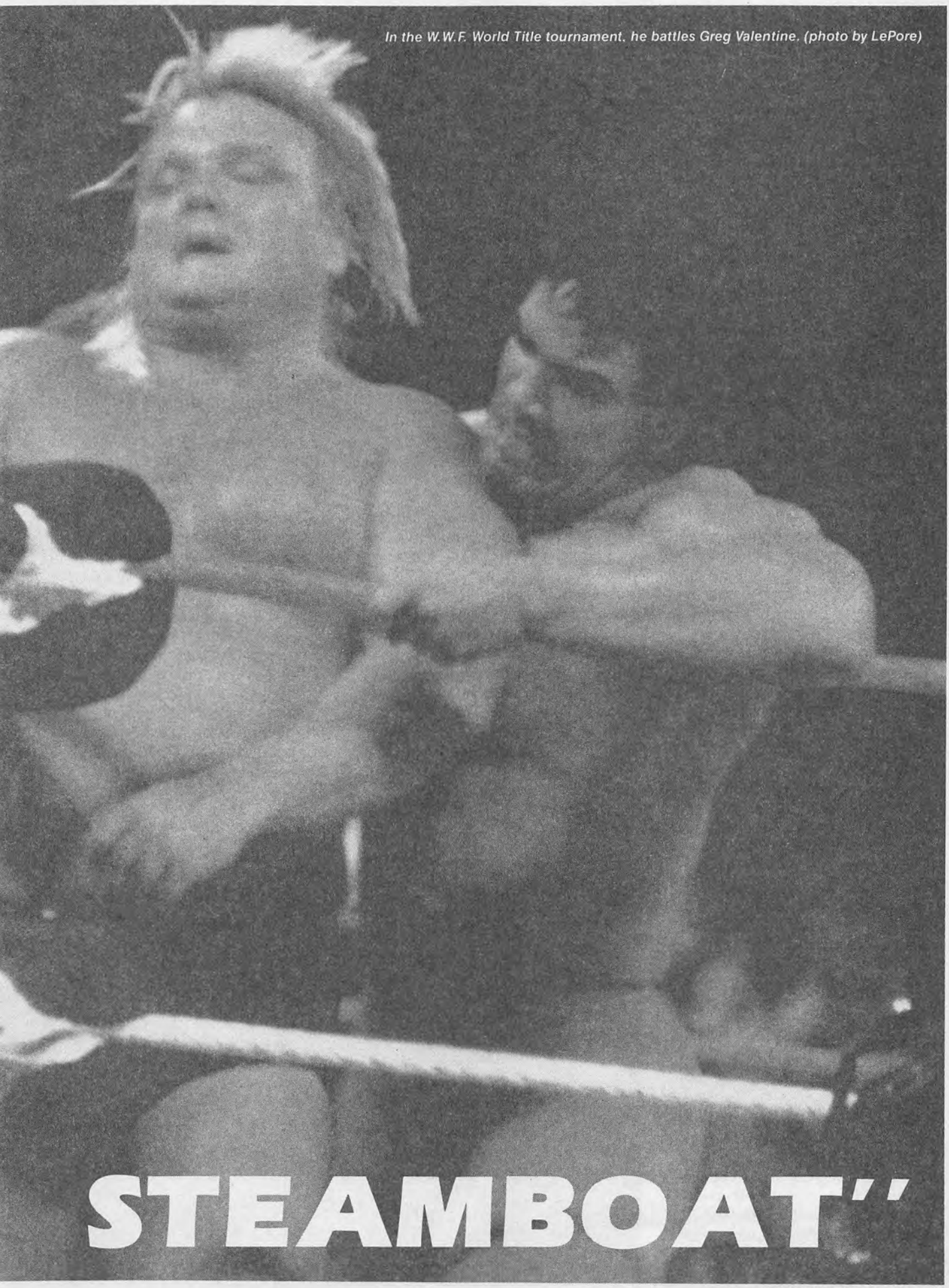
Someone in the world of sports once said that, once you walk away from the fame, the fortune, and the glory of being a professional athlete, you should never think about returning.

It appears that Ricky Steamboat might have done well to heed that advice. For the second time in little more than a year, "The Dragon" has called it quits, walking away from pro wrestling. Most of you will remember that the first time Steamboat retired was due in part to wanting to be with his wife, Bonnie, who was expecting the couple's first child. You might also recall that his swan song at that time was less than memorable, as he lost his WWF Intercontinental title to the Honky Tonk Man. Some say that it was the Steamer's desire to "go out a winner" that brought him back early in 1988. As it turns out, however, it might have been in Ricky's best interests to stay retired.

During his absence, it was business as usual for the WWF. The Hulk Hogan/Andre the Giant feud grabbed most of the headlines. The Honky Tonk Man managed to hold onto the IC belt, narrowly on many occasions. Upon returning, Steamboat found himself relegated to secondary status in the federation. His long-time enemy, Randy Savage, had become a fan favorite, so there was nothing there. The same held true for Don Muraco, who had a violent split with partner Bob "Ace" Orton. Even on television, Ricky was no longer a WWF mainstay. In March, he was entered in the federation's championship tourney, but was eliminated by Greg Valentine. Following WrestleMania IV, the Steamer apparently made his decision to get out.

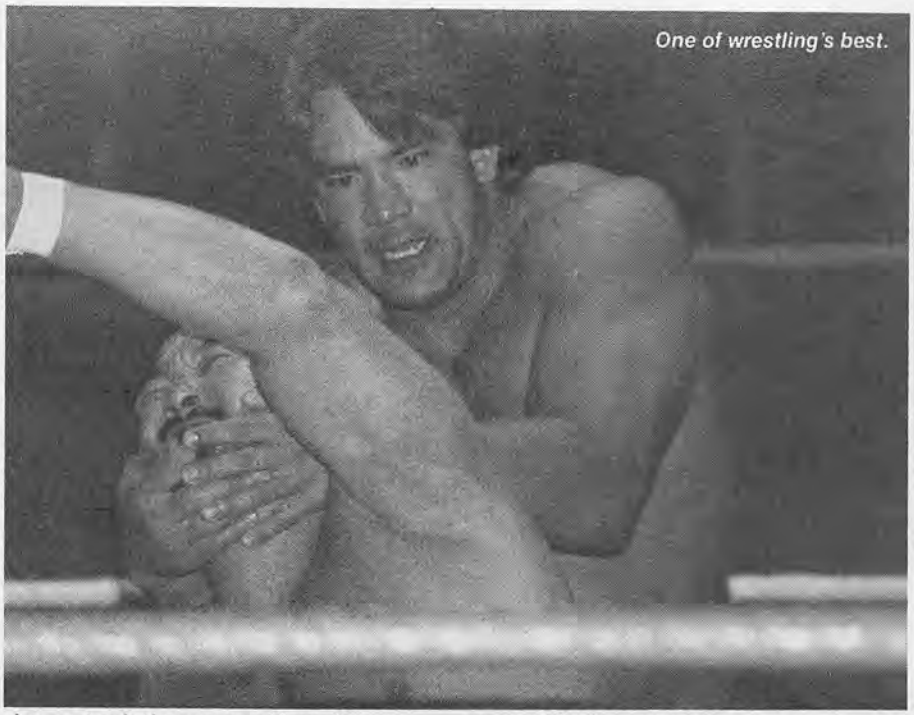
Should his second retirement become permanent, Rick Steamboat will be able to look upon his career with a great deal of pride. Steamboat, whose real name is Rick Mokuahi, is the son of long-time Mid Atlantic favorite Sam Steamboat, began his career in the same area. During his time in the NWA, Ricky was nothing short of sensational. On three different occasions, he was a co-holder of the NWA World Tag Team belts with the late Jay Youngblood. The highlight of the Steamboat/Youngblood tandem came when they defeated Jack & Jerry Brisco for the NWA titles as part of Starrcade '83. In addition to his tag team success, Steamboat was a top contender for both regional and national titles.

Two current NWA mainstays played major roles in Ricky's NWA career. Early on, for instance, Paul



In the W.W.F. World Title tournament, he battles Greg Valentine. (photo by LePore)

STEAMBOAT''



One of wrestling's best.

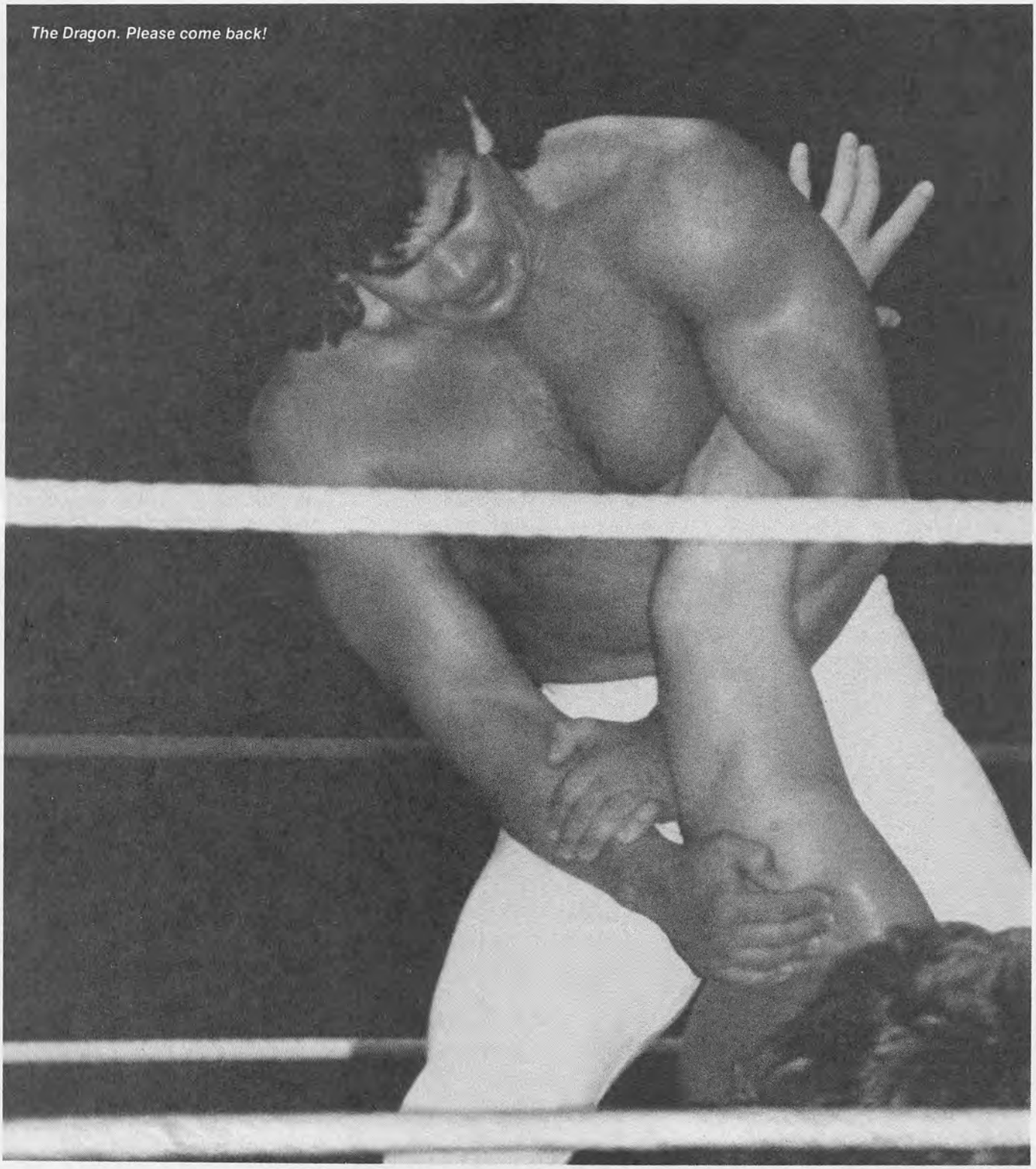
Jones took the young Hawaiian under his wing, and helped him gain experience. The combination of the veteran Jones and the youthful Steamboat was good enough to win the tag team belts, but the duo split when Jones began to change his philosophy on ring tactics, eventually turning into the notorious manager of today.

Secondly, NWA champion Ric Flair had an on-again, off-again friendship with Steamboat. While they were getting along, the two were quite a formidable team. When feuding, their matches became major attractions throughout the alliance. "Ric Flair and I had a strange relationship," Ricky remembers. "You never knew what Ric was going to do next. Sometimes, he would be my best friend, and other times, my worst enemy. I still consider him my friend, but I certainly cannot agree with the path he has chosen for his career."

As his popularity increased, more people began to take notice. A very lucrative offer was soon forthcoming from Vince McMahon, and Steamboat accepted, and left his "home area". Now, this young man who had debuted in the AWA in 1976 without much fanfare, suddenly found himself in the middle of the WWF's "three ring circus". He recalls being somewhat apprehensive at first. "I had worked in front of large crowds in the Mid-Atlantic, but all of the hoopla and excitement that the WWF generated was like nothing I'd ever experienced." He soon became accustomed to his new surroundings, and moved up the ladder of WWF superstars. Problem was, Hulk Hogan was the WWF champion, and since the federation had a policy of not matching up fan favorites, Ricky concentrated his efforts on singles competition against Greg Valentine and fellow Hawaiian Don Muraco. Somewhere during his time, a transformation occurred, and suddenly, plain Ricky Steamboat became "The Dragon", exhibiting a new martial arts style in the ring which proved to be most effective. After ending his brutal feud with Muraco, Ricky began to focus in on then I-C champion, Randy "Macho Man" Savage. "When I first started wrestling against Randy, it wasn't very intense, but after a few matches, we got very personal," said Steamboat. "I was appalled by his arrogance, his disregard for the fans, and especially, his treatment of Elizabeth." Several times, Savage used Steamer's concern for Elizabeth's welfare to sneak attack his foe. The battles became more intense and more bloody with each passing week, and the feud reached its apex when, on October 28, 1986, the Macho Man nearly ended Ricky's career. After attacking from behind, Savage grabbed the timekeeper's bell, and dropped off the top rope with it, crashing into Steamboat's throat. For a time there was major concern that Ricky would not be able to talk again, let alone return to the ring. Fortunately, the Dragon recovered, and eventually managed to lift the I-C belt from Savage.

Overall, the war against Randy Savage was the worst, but when you ask him about other WWF opponents, Steamboat always mentions Muraco and Jake "The Snake" Roberts first. "I tell you what. Don Muraco put some hurt on me several times. He was strong as an ox, and he was managed then by Mr. Fuji, who is a supreme sadist. He had complete control of Rock's mind then, and it took everything I had just to survive." As for Roberts, he was re-

Will Steamboat ever return?



The Dragon. Please come back!

sponsible for one of the Dragon's most humiliating moments. "Yes, I remember that night very well. I was scheduled to meet Jake as a part of one of the 'Saturday Night's Main Event' shows, but he jumped me outside the ring, and used that DDT on me on the floor. They had to carry me out, and the match couldn't go on. That was very embarrassing, but I think I more than paid him back." Could it be that wrestling against Steamboat had something to do with Savage, Muraco, and Roberts all eventually turning "good"? "I don't know about that," he laughs. "But I am glad to see that they got themselves straightened out."

No matter what the reason or reasons might be for his second departure from the sport he loves, Rick Steamboat isn't bitter. "Professional wrestling has been very good to me and my family," he says. "There have been some bad times, sure, but they have been far outweighed by the good things that have happened, and the good people I've met." The highlight of his career? "That would be hard to say, but one particular match I remember well was against Randy Savage in WrestleMania III," Steamboat says. "I've heard that match called maybe the greatest of all time, and since I won the Intercontinental belt in that match, it would have to rank near the top."

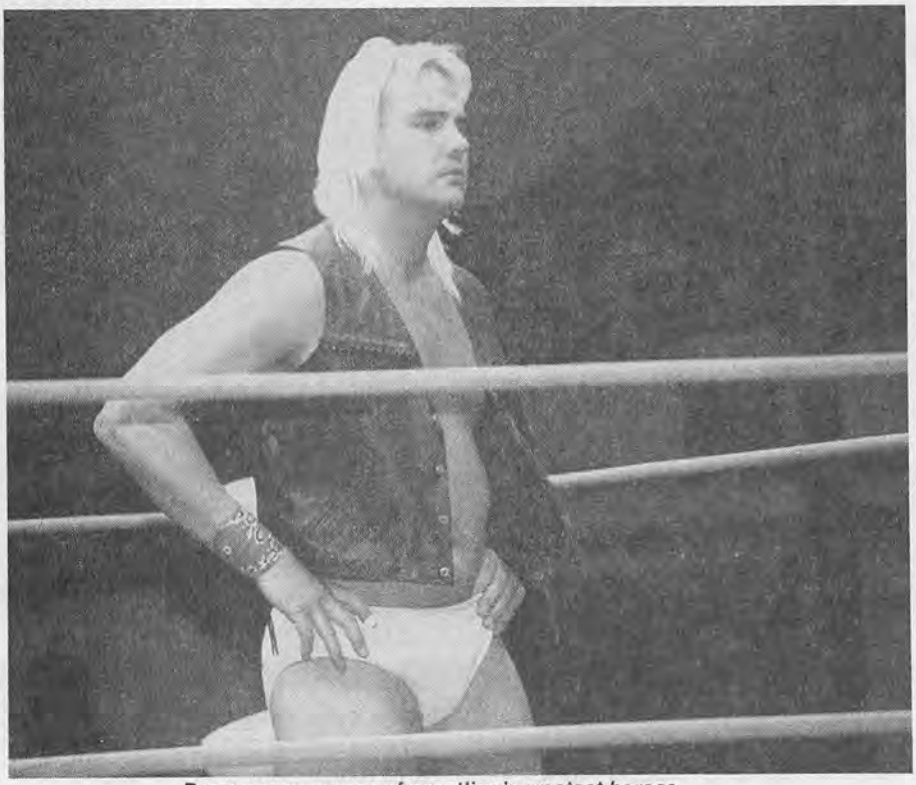
"BARRY WINDHAM"

"THE NEWEST AND BADDEST HORSEMAN"

By Tom Clutters

It was a surprise, a shock. But it wasn't totally unexpected.

Barry Windham is now a member of the Four Horsemen. If that doesn't sound right to you, you're certainly not by yourself. However, if you look closely at the events leading up to the evening of April 22 in Jacksonville, FL, you could almost see it coming. It was on that night, less than 24 hours prior to the Jim Crockett, Sr. Memorial Cup tournament, that Windham turned against Lex Luger, and joined the group of men with whom he had engaged in so many memorable battles.

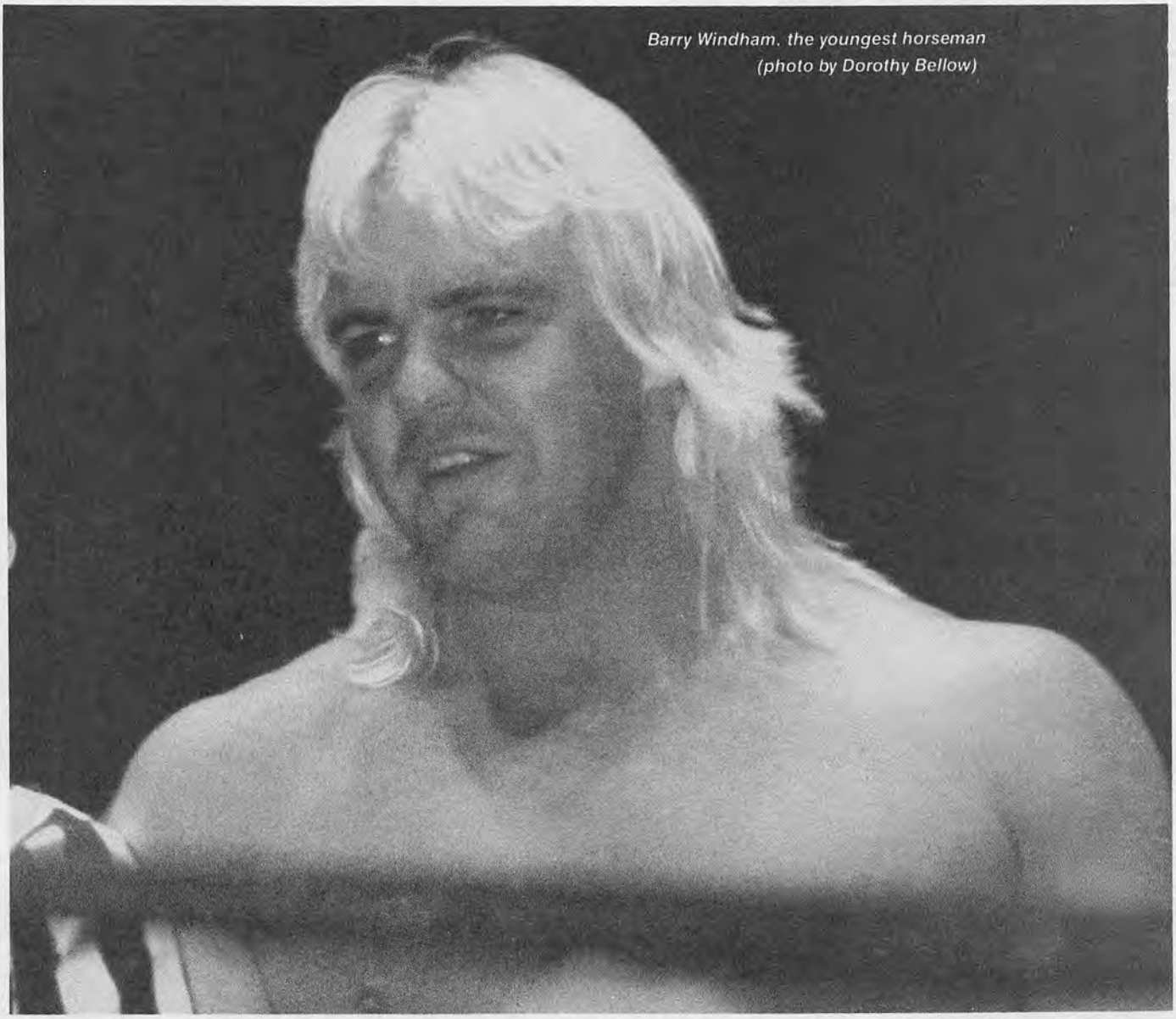


Barry was once one of wrestling's greatest heroes.

Ever since Luger decided to jump the Horsemen ship and strike out on his own, Horsemen manager James J. Dillon had been working diligently to fill the vacancy. Many names had been tossed about, including Windham, Nikita Koloff, and even Ronnie Garvin, as the person to fill the hole next to Arn Anderson, Tully Blanchard, and "Nature Boy" Ric Flair. In fact, it was decided that the position should be first offered to Windham, a man respected by all involved. Barry refused the offer, but apparently, Dillon had planted a very strong idea in the youngster's head. As the weeks wore on, Windham and Luger formed a potent tag team, and eventually pried the NWA tag team belts away from Anderson and Blanchard. Things appeared to be normal, and Barry and Lex seemed to have permanently patched up their past differences.

Several title defenses followed, with Windham and Luger holding onto their belts against not only the former champs, but also against the challenges of Kevin Sullivan's Varsity Club and Jim Cornette's Midnight Express. All appeared calm, until an incident which occurred on WTBS in mid-April. Dusty Rhodes, incensed by Blanchard's attack on Magnum TA, nearly destroyed Tully and several others with a baseball bat. Many of Dusty's supporters and close friends, while in agreement with his intent, were hesitant to support his use of the bat to try to end someone's career. Rhodes was suspended for four months, but quickly resumed his ring activities under the guise of the masked "Midnight Rider", a rulebreaking fan favorite who appeared to have no conscience, and was determined to destroy everything in his path. According to some sources, Windham was one of the people who felt that Dusty was wrong to use the bat, and should have sat out his suspension as directed. On the other hand, Luger was adamant in his support for the American Dream, and worked to further the cause of the Midnight Rider. While Windham went along his heart wasn't in it.

Long respected as one of the finest minds in the sport, Dillon rec-

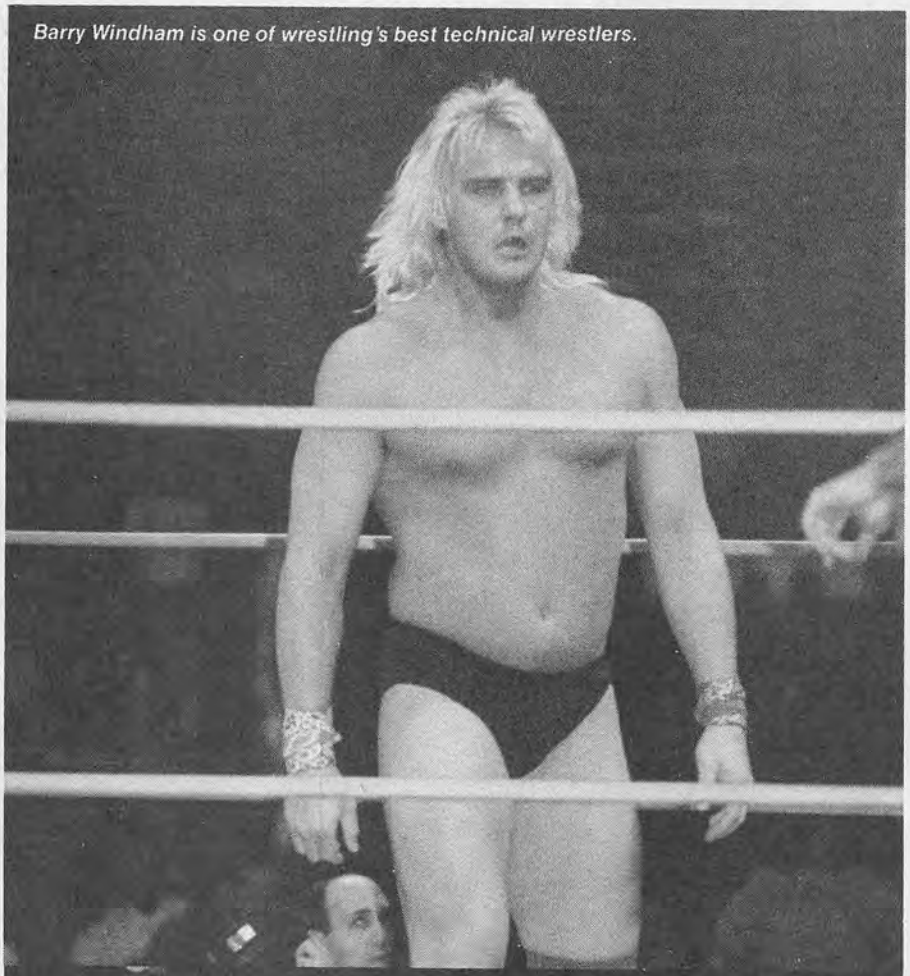


Barry Windham, the youngest horseman (photo by Dorothy Bellow)

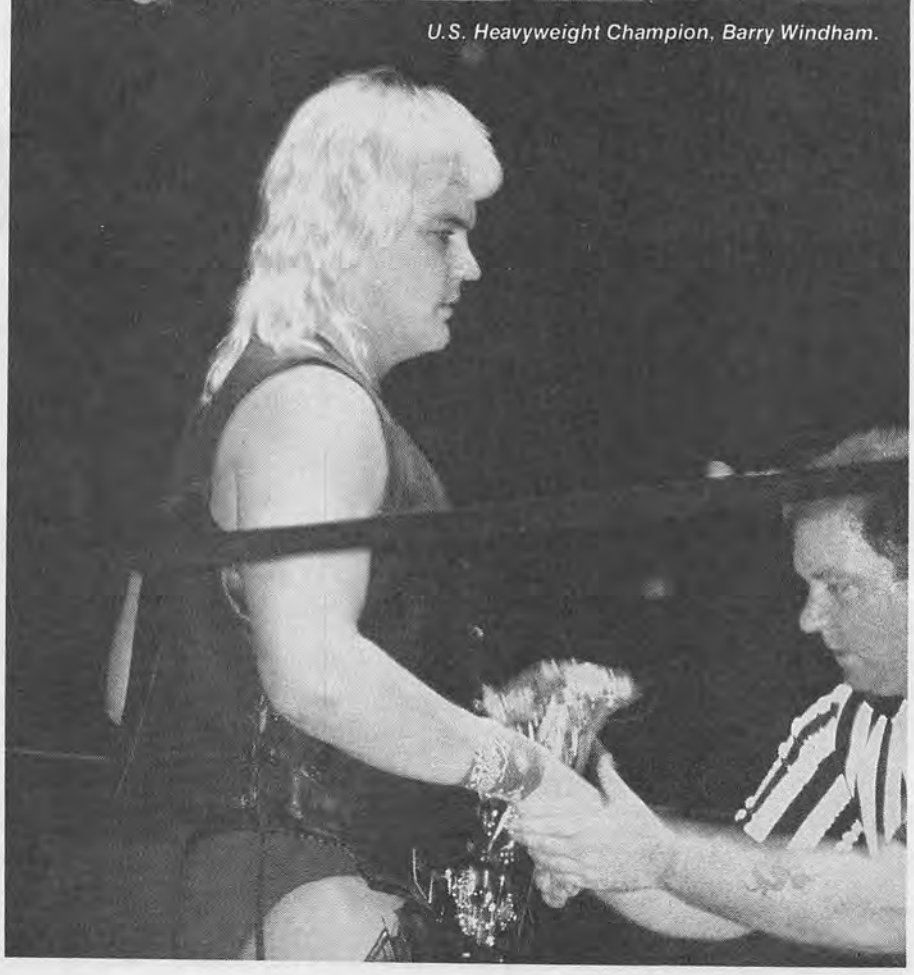
ognized Windham's resistance to the antics of his friends, and resumed his barrage of offers to the young Texan. The money was increased, and the fringe benefits improved. Barry was weakening, and Dillon knew it, and waited his chance. Then, during a taping of "World Champion Wrestling" in Jacksonville, the whole thing broke loose.

Even during the introductions, a close observer could see that Windham was not in his usual relaxed frame of mind. He barely talked to his partner, and looked uptight. During the match, Luger absorbed a tremendous amount of punishment from Anderson and Blanchard, who were more intense than ever. They sacrificed themselves in order to keep Lex from tagging off, and the former Horsemen suffered greatly as a result. When he did finally manage to tag Windham, he immediately tumbled from the ring to the floor. Blanchard followed, and rammed Luger into one of the steel ringposts. Luger dropped immediately, bleeding and barely conscious. Tully then scrambled back into the ring, and administered a "low blow" to Windham's groin, stopping his momentum. Anderson then began to stomp away at Barry, while Lex struggled to regain his feet outside the ring. On two occasions, Windham managed to get to his corner, only to find it empty. "I told you, kid!" screamed Dillon. "I told you he wouldn't be there when you needed him!" Barry continued to fight off both Anderson and Blanchard, and once again, crawled to his corner. This time, Luger was just trying to pull himself up from the apron. Looking disgusted, Windham pulled Luger to the apron by the hair, grabbed his hand, and slapped it savagely, as if to make a tag. Luger, still only semi-coherent, simply stood leaning against the ropes. Windham then suddenly grabbed Lex, and slammed him into the center of the ring as the crowd fell silent in disbelief. Luger attempted to pull himself up to his partner, and after Barry helped him to his feet, he immediately delivered a flying lariat which knocked Luger out. While Anderson and Blanchard looked on in shock, Windham smiled, flashed them the four-fingered sign of the Horsemen, and left the ring. Regaining his composure, Anderson fell across Luger and covered him for the three count from referee Teddy Long.

Some fans, realizing what they had just seen, began to hurl insults and objects at Windham as he walked away, followed by Dillon. Meanwhile, Horsemen fans re-



Barry Windham is one of wrestling's best technical wrestlers.



U.S. Heavyweight Champion, Barry Windham.

joiced in the knowledge that the vacancy had finally been filled.

Quickly, several other wrestlers came to attend to Luger. One of them was the Midnight Rider, who seemed more agitated than the rest. After a few moments, the Rider charged in the direction of the dressing room, escorted by Steve Williams, Sting, and others. He kicked open the door, and confronted Windham, who was celebrating with his newfound buddies. "What the hell are you doin'?" the Rider screamed, as Windham backed away. Suddenly, the masked man found himself under attack from all directions, as the heels attempted to remove his mask. While Williams and the others managed to rescue the mystery man, his hood was taken off, although his face was not seen.

After the dust had settled, the Horsemen were expectedly delighted with the situation. "I've said all along that Barry Windham was the first, and really the only, choice to be the fourth Horseman," said Dillon. "It took longer than I expected, but Barry has finally realized that it's time to be his own man. It's time for him to reach for the stars, so to speak, and he now will be able to do just that, as a Horseman." "Can there be any doubt that the Horsemen rule professional wrestling now?" gloated Blanchard. "What you have just seen," said Anderson, "Is a professional athlete making a career decision. Windham has made up his mind to get out of the shadow of Dusty Rhodes, and be his own man."

Luger refused to talk about the incident right away. It was decided that Sting would fill in as his partner for the Crockett Cup, and the two young lions went on to win both the tournament and the million dollar prize money. It was some consolation, but not nearly enough. "Winning this tournament is one of the highlights of my life, but I cannot forget what just happened two days ago. Barry Windham, you've just chosen the lonliest path of your career. You may think that you're surrounded by friends, but you're not. Believe me, it's going to be a lonely path for you, and I'm going to do everything in my power to make you even lonelier. You can count on that!"

"THE NEVEREN

"FLAIR vs. STING"

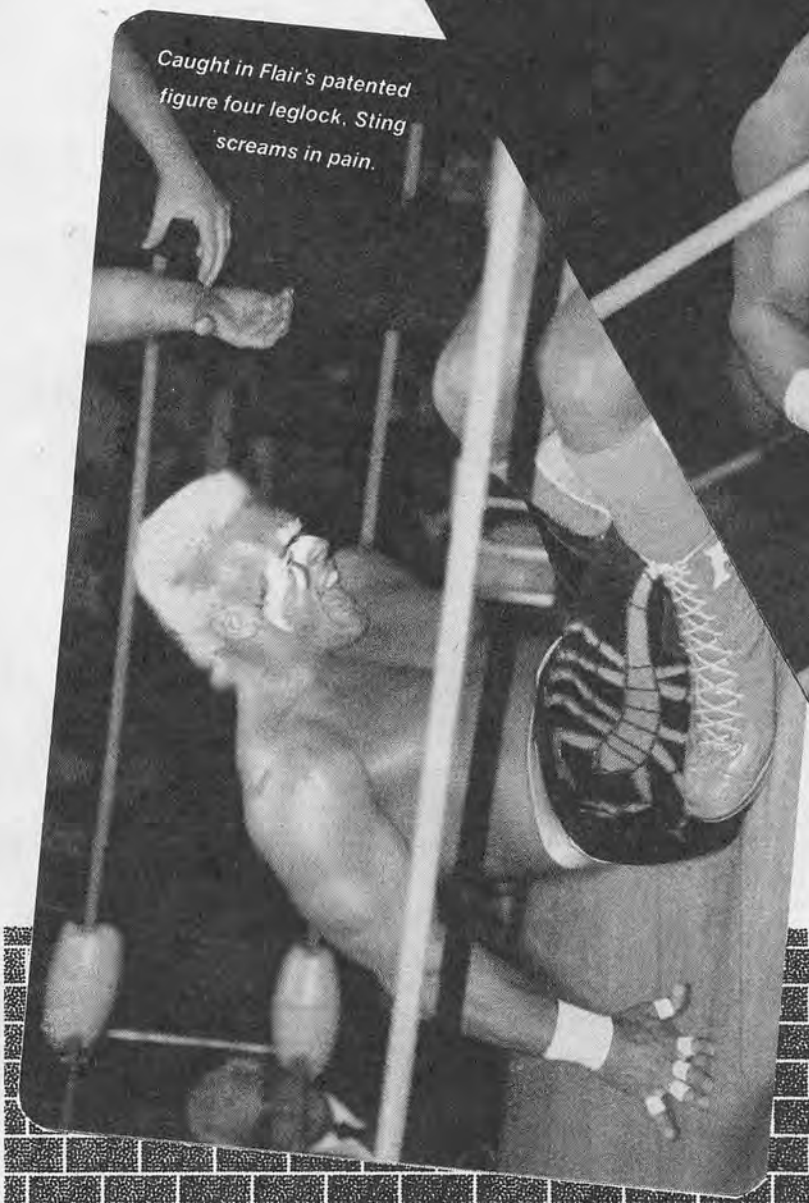
By DeSpirito

DING BATTLE"

Sting gains control.
Sting grimaces in pain in the clutches of the champ.

"FLAIR vs. STING"

Sting may have the N.W.A. World's belt around his waist, but Flair is still the champ.



Caught in Flair's patented figure four leglock. Sting screams in pain.

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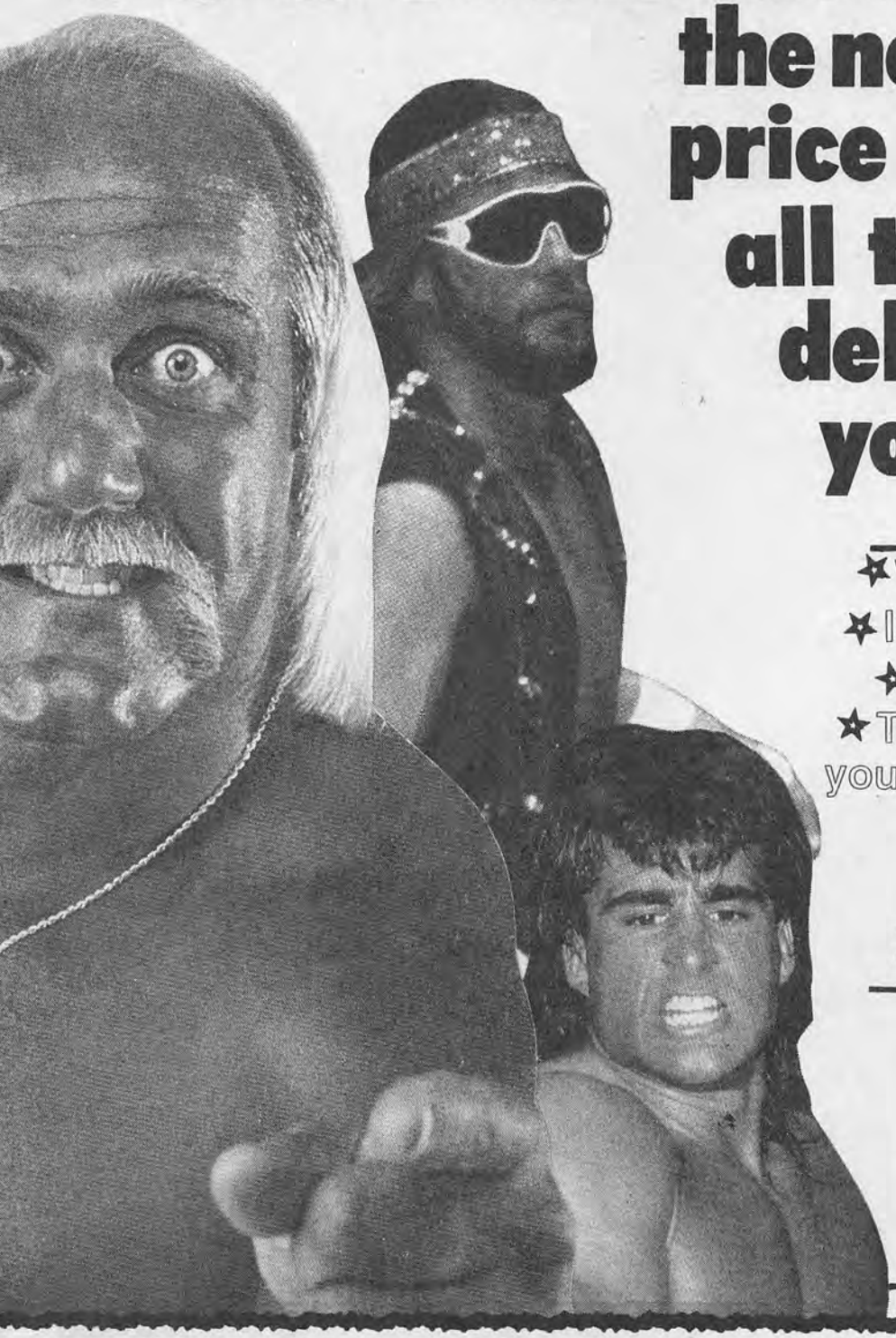

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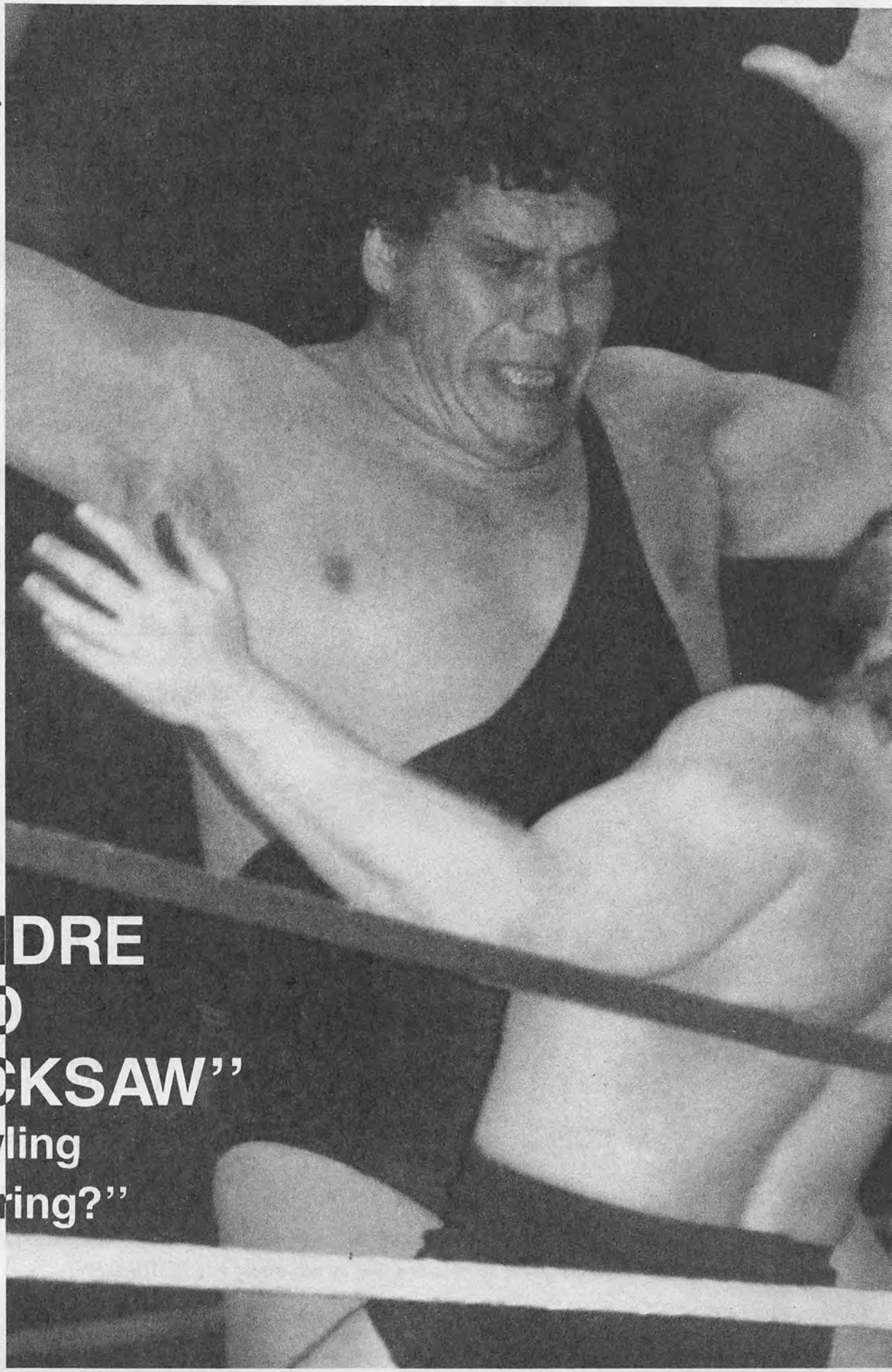


The Giant chokes the life out of Duggan.

"ANDRE AND HACKSAW"

"Brawling Or Boring?"

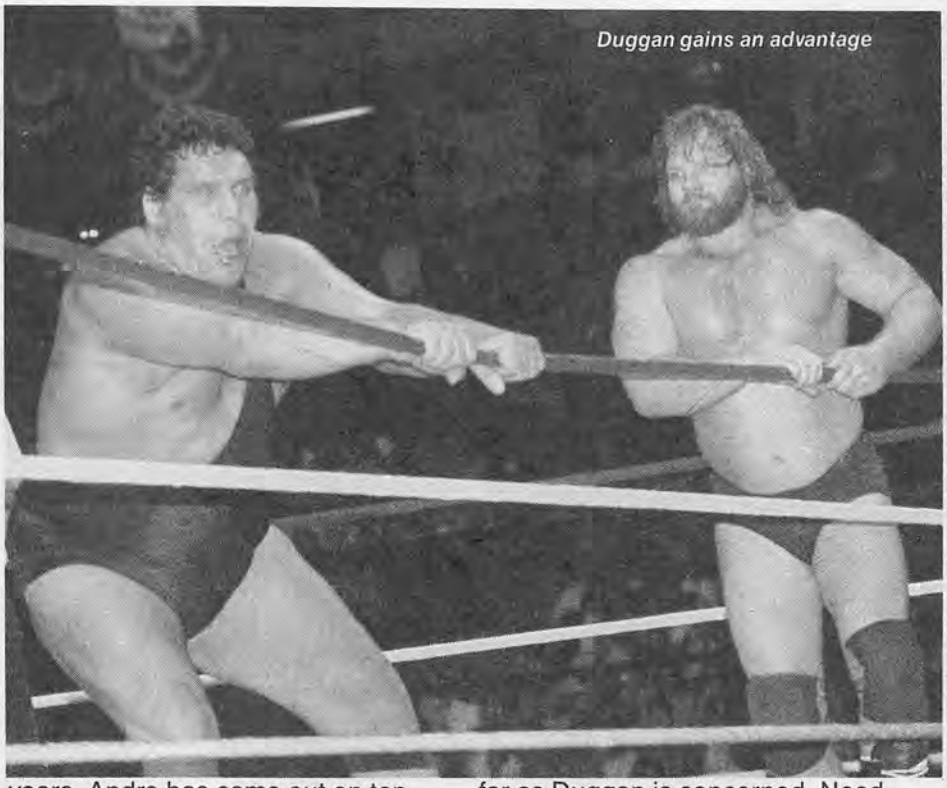
The 500 lb French man squashes Duggan.

By Don Liable

Okay, right off the bat, it's no great secret that neither Andre the Giant or "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan would capture a medal in Olympic wrestling competition. For that matter, in all likelihood, the two men would find it extremely difficult to be fortunate enough to be selected for their country's teams. Big, strong, and tough competitors they are. Andre, from France, towers over virtually all his challengers. At 7'5", 500 lbs., there isn't much Andre can't have, once he sets his mind to it. Since joining the Bobby Heenan wrestling stable, the giant Frenchman has taken a drastic change for the worse in his overall ring approach. Once a strict rulebook follower, now Andre will stoop to any means to score a victory and to please his manager. "Hacksaw" Duggan, at 6'2" 270 lbs., no slouch to the common man, has become engaged in an all-out war with Andre. With the Giant not falling into the average man's category, the phrase "blood bath" and the word feud have taken on new meaning. The big question mark directed at the two main eventers of the World Wrestling Federation stars has been, are the matches between the two men exciting or exhausting?

"Hacksaw" Jim Duggan is a former professional football player in the National Football League. After toiling in relative obscurity during his first several years as a pro wrestler, oddly enough for the WWF in preliminary matches, Duggan found a home in Promoter Bill Watts' Mid-South Wrestling Association. The much needed quality competition, experience and character building in a region foreign to him, all contributed in creating Duggan into a wrestling machine. The WWF had planted the wrestling seed in Duggan, of Glens Falls, New York, and the MSWA provided the nutrients in growing a colorful, fast moving, never-say-die grappler. No doubt about it, while touring Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana for Bill Watts' organization, those were the years in which "Hacksaw" was in his athletic prime. Butch Reed, Ted DiBiase, Magnum Terry Allen and the One Man Gang all received their share of bumps and bruises, along with several defeats, courtesy of the Glens Falls Police Chief's son. At that time injuries were minor and few and far between.

Other than shedding fifty to sixty pounds, nothing about the physical make up of Andre the Giant's body has changed throughout his wrestling days. For the past seventeen



Duggan gains an advantage

years, Andre has come out on top of his opponents, not because he had a better dropkick or a more devastating suplex, on the contrary, one would have to dig deep into the dusty record book pages to come up with documentation proving Andre in fact has ever executed an actual wrestling hold in a single match. It has been his large frame, devastating headbutt and knockout right hook that has enabled the Giant to stay on top all these years. Oh yes, gigantic but human, too. Long before Hulk Hogan pinned him on the WrestleMania 3 super show in Pontiac, Michigan before 93,000 screaming fans, much to the disgust of the WWF media moguls, Andre was indeed flattened in the ring for a three count. "Killer" Kowalski and Don Leo Jonathan are just two of the old pros that taught the Giant a wrestling lesson in the ring.

Through crafty matchmaking and shrewd contractual negotiations, Duggan and Andre have lined up a series of matches pitting them against one another. The goal, both professional and financial, for both is capturing the WWF Heavyweight Championship. Both men are quite cognizant as to what a clear cut, no second guessing series of victories over one another would mean, another crack at the singles title for Andre, and a first time challenger for the gold belt as far as Duggan is concerned. Needless to say, each wrestler had everything to win and a considerable amount to lose when squaring off against one another. However, the glory days, the big matches seem to be coming less for Andre and Duggan. Both men, though courageous and strong willed, appear to be entering the twilight of their careers.

Andre and Duggan brawled until the bell sounded.

The dozen or so a year battle royals won by Andre are now less frequent. The championships and physically punishing and emotionally draining confrontations against the likes of Hogan and Kamala-The Ugandan Giant have taken their toll on Andre's ability to be as mobile in the ring, to avoid certain holds and punches, as he once was gracefully able to do, what seemed so natural to him. The mentioning on the arenas marquees stating an Andre-"Hacksaw" battle sounds like a matchup you would even pay scalper prices just to be able to witness the test of skills. After seeing the two in the ring, there have been some saddened and dissatisfied customers. It's sad to see that both men can put out only a fraction of what they once displayed in talent. Dissatisfied, due to the lack of actual wrestling maneuvers and more standing around and staring at each other in the ring to the degree of "refund, refund" chants.

Andre sports a rubber brace around his back to give him the assistance he needs just to get through normal, everyday duties, such as walking. Although the big guy attempts to conceal the padding around his mid-section, it is quite evident. Andre's motions are now resembling slow motion

speed. His forearm blows and head butts are telegraphed to the point where Andre, at times, gives his challengers a tip off as to what he is attempting and they quickly reposition themselves.

Old "Hacksaw", as Jim refers to himself, is a moving, live advertisement for a medical supply company, waiting to happen. As Boris Levinsky, a one time opponent of Duggan's in Cincinnatti, Ohio said recently, 'If you have trouble sleeping, just look at a picture of Jim's knees and count the number of braces and pads, you'll be in dream land before you finished counting them all'. The scars, the disfigured bones, the bandages and pads are all over Duggan. Wrestling has taken a toll on him. A rugged and intense battler, Jim Duggan now is more of a personality, appealing to the kids bearing T-shirts with his picture on it, than to an athlete who for years was a fan favorite predominately to the middle-aged well versed avid sportsman.

Now Duggan needs a gimmick to stay on top in his craft. What a 2x4 piece of wood has to do with a wrestling match has about as much credence as in carrying a snake or dog onto the mat. The illegal piece of wood is what got Duggan into hot water with Andre in the first place. In Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Andre was knocked unconscious due to a home run swing of Duggan's 2x4. No one had ever humiliated the Giant, what made the demoralizing whack even more embarassing, the lights went out on Andre before millions of television viewers. Revenge, pure and simple, has been on the Giant's mind ever since.

'They just may finish each other off. Who knows where this will end up, most likely with someone landing in the hospital for a month or two. I'm glad I don't have to be the referee for any of their matches. When those two wild men meet, if the ref orders them to break a hold, and they get annoyed at him, who knows, the official can get knocked silly with the 2x4 or by one of Andre's fists. The best thing for the both of them is to let them get it out of their system and see who survives', said Special Delivery Jones.

Both Andre and Duggan, unquestionably always put out their best possible efforts. They are credits to their professions. However, in most cases their highly hyped confrontations have lasted no more than ten minutes in length. For half of those ten minutes, a lot of finger pointing, screaming and idle threats are exchanged between the main eventers. Fans have been dishing out large sums of money for very little thrills and spills in return. It's not uncommon to see a yawn or two amongst the audience a minute or two after the bell starts the match.

'The guys try their best. Injuries and age are creeping up on Andre and Duggan. They still have some punch left in them. I compare them to Muhammad Ali towards the end of his illustrious boxing career. Ali's legs weren't as fast as we remembered when he was in his prime and he didn't block as many punches but it was still a treat to see him in person and think back on his glory days', Enrico DiMaria, current International Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Champion stated.

Jim Duggan and Andre the Giant are both tough guys and giants in the sport of professional wrestling. Their niches in the sport's annals are secured. The next time you see the two men squaring off, remember, they deserve an A for effort at the very least.

Duggan and Andre, some battle.

"BUTCH REED

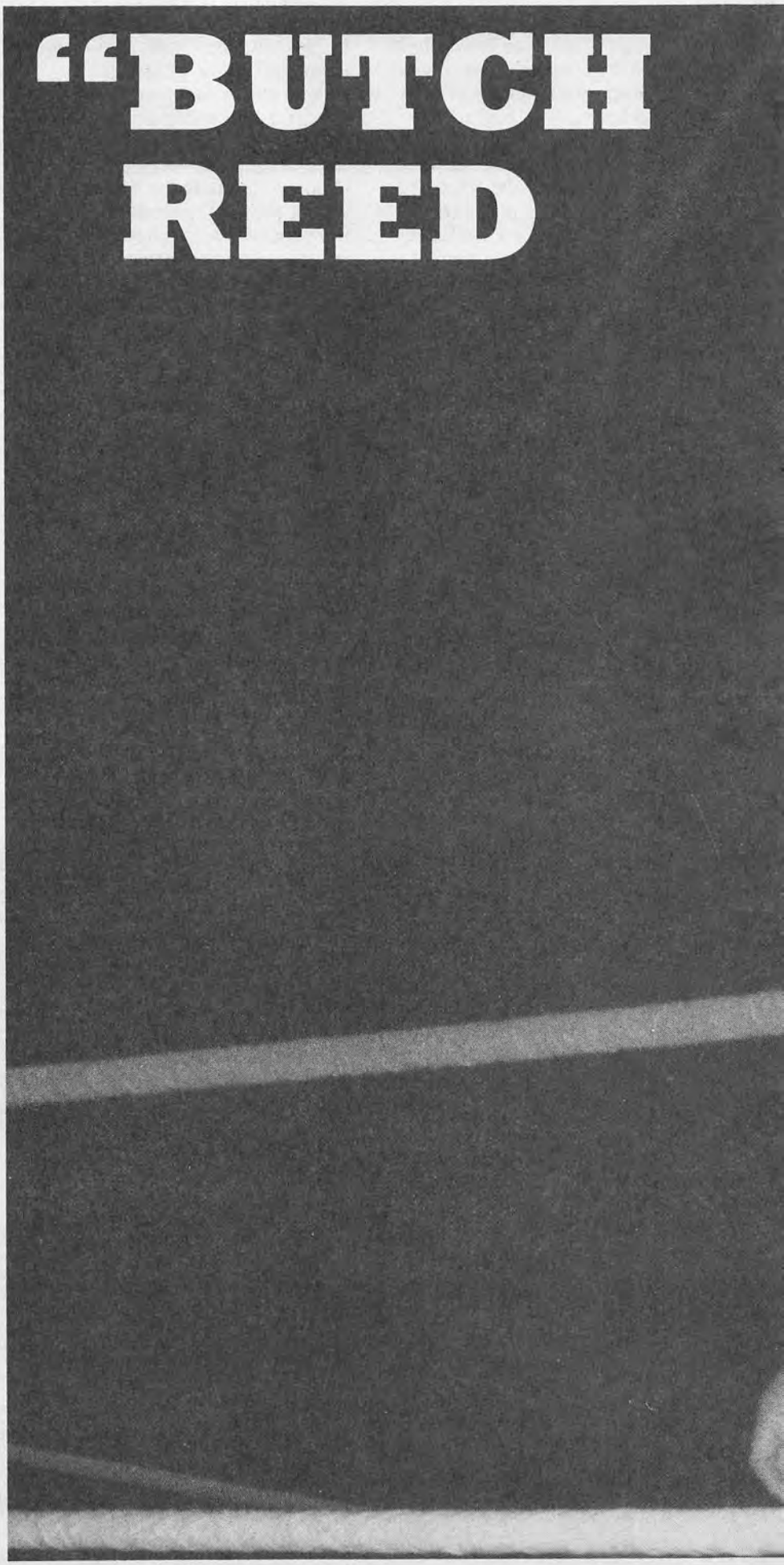
By Tom Clutters

By now, you can safely add the name of Butch Reed to the long list of wrestlers who have become lost in the World Wrestling Federation's "Twilight Zone".

Since Vince McMahon and Co. emerged on the mat scene years ago, many of the sport's top stars have been signed to lucrative contracts, only to "disappear" among the multitudes. While some, less-talented men have received big pushes, others have been forced into the background and nearly forgotten. The story has been well-documented overall, so in this space, we will deal with Butch Reed in particular.

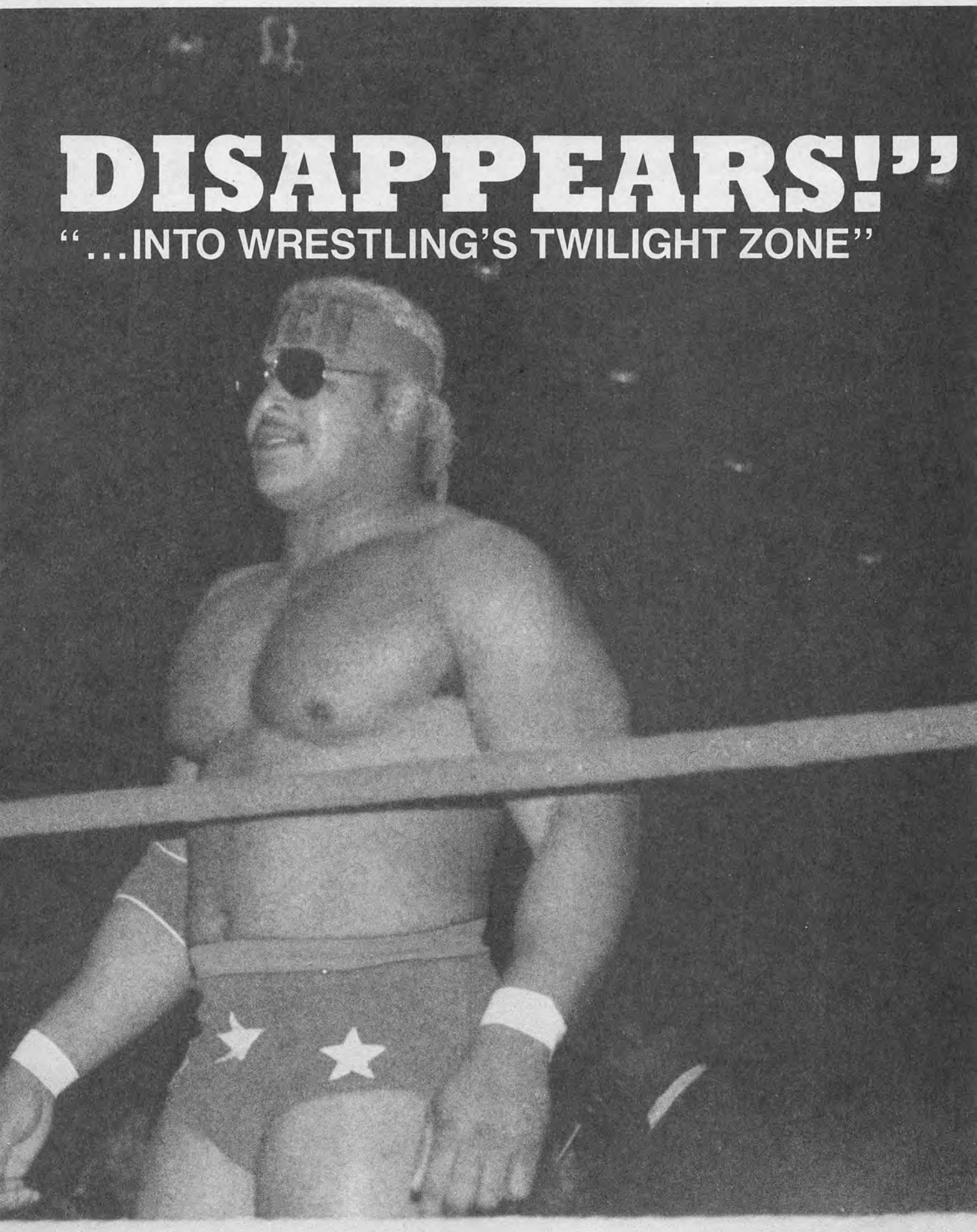
Reed, a former weightlifter and body-builder, was a star in both the NWA and AWA before saying "yes" to the WWF a couple of years ago. His past record, while impressive, was dotted with instance after instance of Reed switching back and forth between heel and fan favorite. His instability, according to those close to the situation, was a major reason he never stayed in one area for very long. Starting out as simply Bruce Reed, he then became "Hacksaw" Butch Reed, then changed his first name to "Butch," and entered the WWF as "Hacksaw" Butch Reed. Highlights of his pre-WWF days included a monumental feud in the Mid-South region with fellow strongman the Barbarian, which was never fully resolved. Also in Mid-South, Reed teamed often with Jim Duggan against the so-called "Rat Pack" of Ted DiBiase, Mr. Olympia, and King Kong Bundy. Later, during a television taping in Florida, Butch actually pinned NWA champion Ric Flair, but the pinfall came just seconds after the 30-minute time limit had expired. Reed's big moment in the NWA came when he and Pez Whatley combined their talents to score a surprise victory in a $25,000 Thanksgiving night tournament in Atlanta.

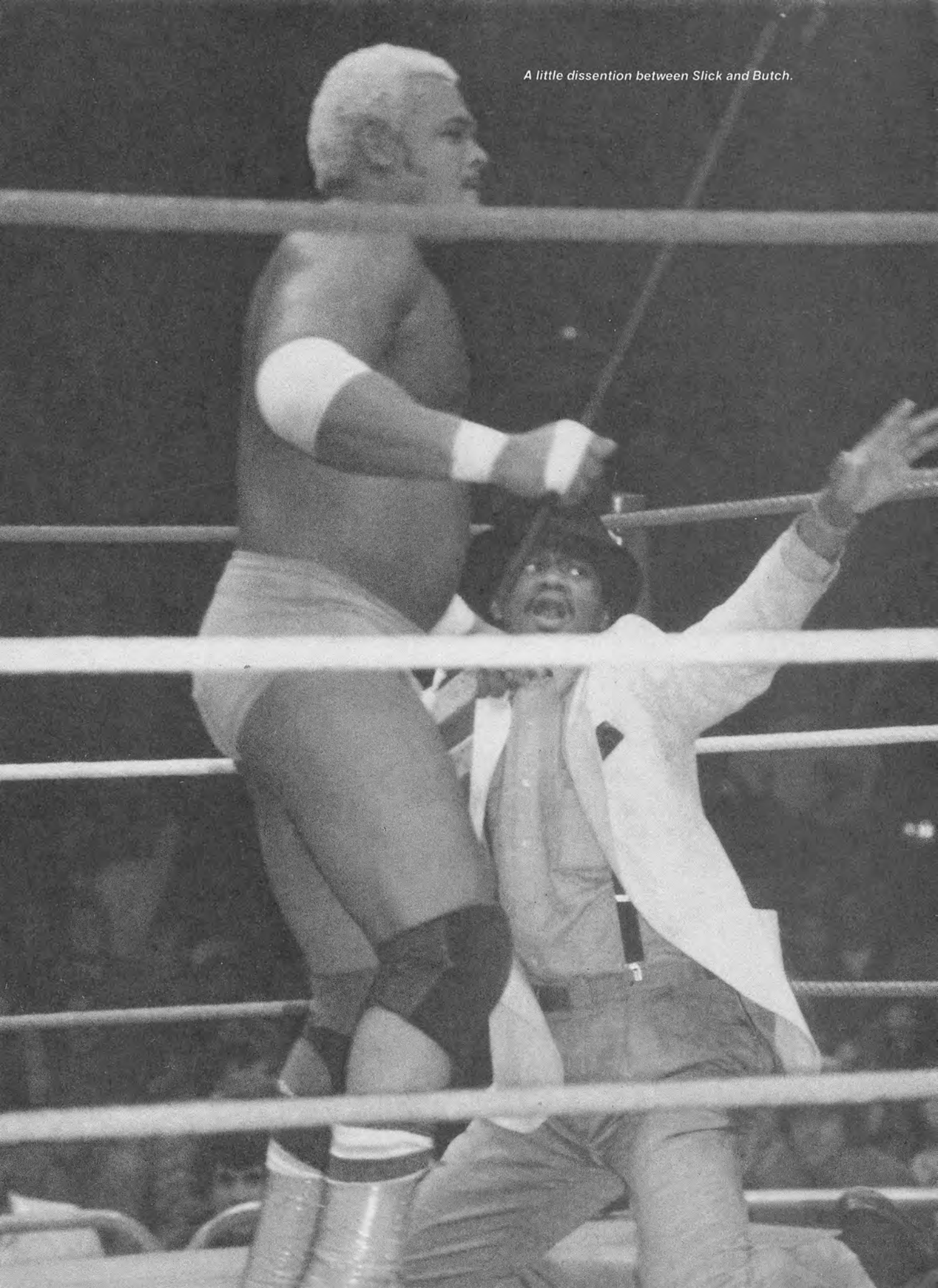
During his first months in the WWF, Reed feuded with the Junkyard Dog and a couple of others, but was never considered a major attraction. Early in 1987, a strange transformation took place. It was widely known that Duggan and his familiar "Hacksaw" moniker were heading into the federation, and it



DISAPPEARS!"

"...INTO WRESTLING'S TWILIGHT ZONE"





A little dissention between Slick and Butch.

was decided that Butch Reed's image should change. Suddenly, sporting a new head of bleached blonde hair and with new manager Slick at his side, Butch Reed became "The Natural". "Butch Reed is the greatest natural athlete in professional wrestling," announced the Slickster. "With his talent with my managerial genius, it won't be too long before we dominate the World Wrestling Federation."

To most observers, the sight of this golden-haired black man calling himself "natural" was just another McMahon sideshow. "What's next?" asked one noted journalist. "A Chinese guy calling himself 'the All-American boy'?" Nevertheless, one could not deny that this was a truly gifted athlete. With what has often been described as the perfect wrestling build, Reed is able to execute a rare combination of speed and power moves, causing no end of difficulties for opponents. In addition, he and another Slick protege, the 500-pound One Man Gang, were highly-regarded as tag team contenders. It became apparent, however, that Slick was expecting more from the Gang than from Reed.

The Natural

One of the W.W.F. greatest villians.

As WrestleMania IV and the tournament to determine the next WWF champion approached, Slick managed to enter both of his men in the competition, and shrugged off the suggestion that they two might eventually have to square off against one another. "I'm not worried about something like that," he said. "All I know is, I have two men in this thing, and that makes my chances of winning twice as good." As it turned out, Gang went further in the tourney, but both he and Reed were eventually to fall. "The Natural" fell victim to his own mistakes in losing a first-round encounter with eventual winner Randy Savage, even though Reed was superior throughout most of the match.

While Slick still insists that Reed will continue in his quest to unseat Savage, but following WM IV, Reed was pushed aside, while the One Man Gang continued as a headliner. What this will all lead to is anybody's guess.

When asked about the definite lack of quality black performers in professional wrestling, "The Natural" is stumped for an answer. "I don't think that anyone can say for sure," he admits. "Wrestling isn't any different than baseball or football. It just seems like young blacks want to try other sports first, before they try wrestling. Myself, I could have played football or basketball, but I liked the idea of one-on-one competition, and that's why I picked wrestling." Certainly, the lack of black title contenders is obvious when you scan the various ratings. Only Ron Simmons (NWA) and Iceman Parsons (World Class) are listed among the top ten in any federation, but others like the Jive Tones (Whatley and Tiger Conway, Jr.), Tony Atlas, and JYD have all made their marks. "I don't have much time to worry about things like that," Reed added. "I have myself to take care of, and right now, I'm interested in taking care of the Macho Man."

What is true for others in the WWF could well be true for Butch Reed. An exit from the federation to an organization where he would better be able to display his talent and now, his maturity. "Yeah, I've grown up. I've learned a lot about this business, and I'll eventually put that experience to work," says Butch. "I know that I can beat Randy Savage, and I'll damn sure do everything I can to get the chance."

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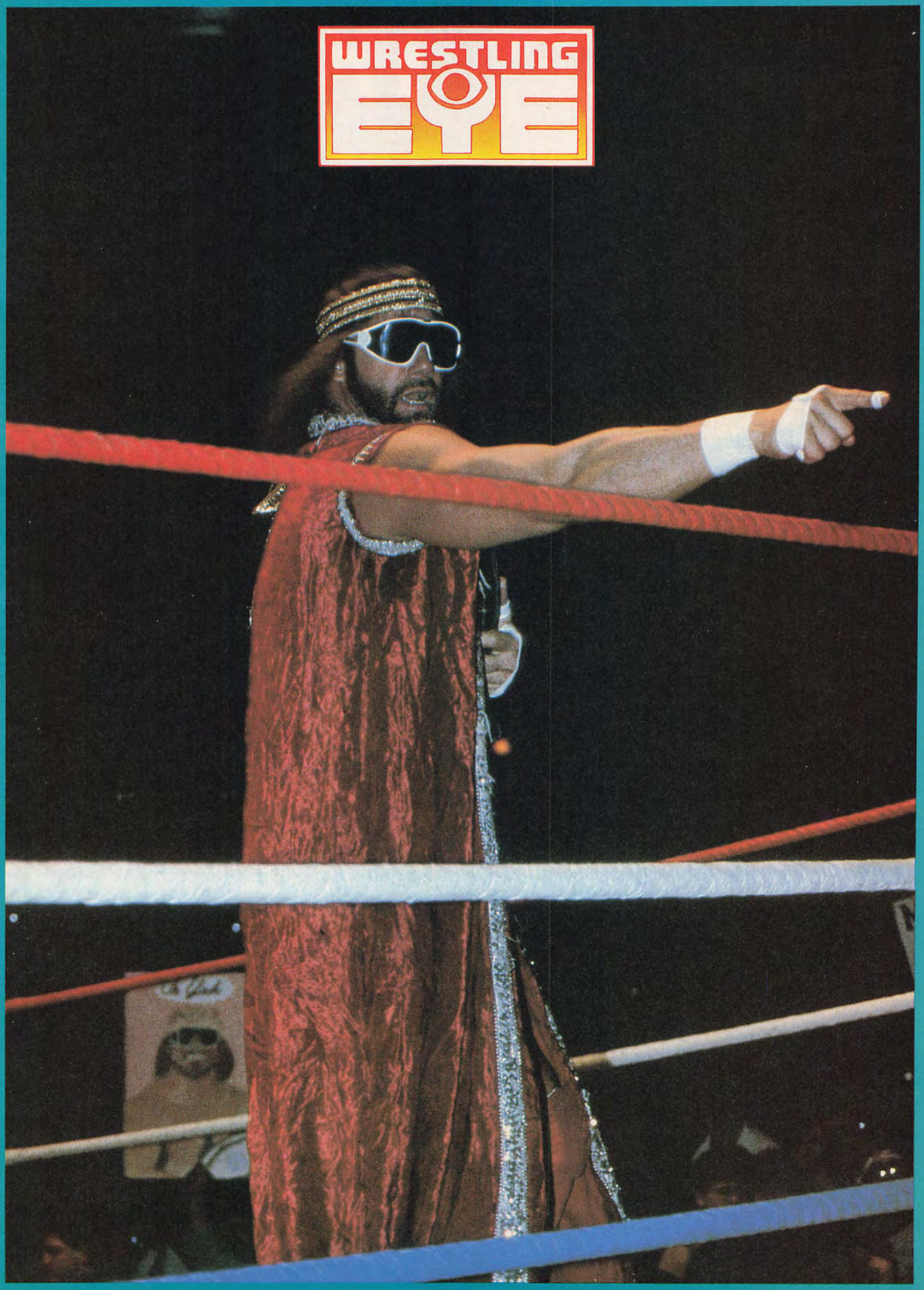

TRUMP PL

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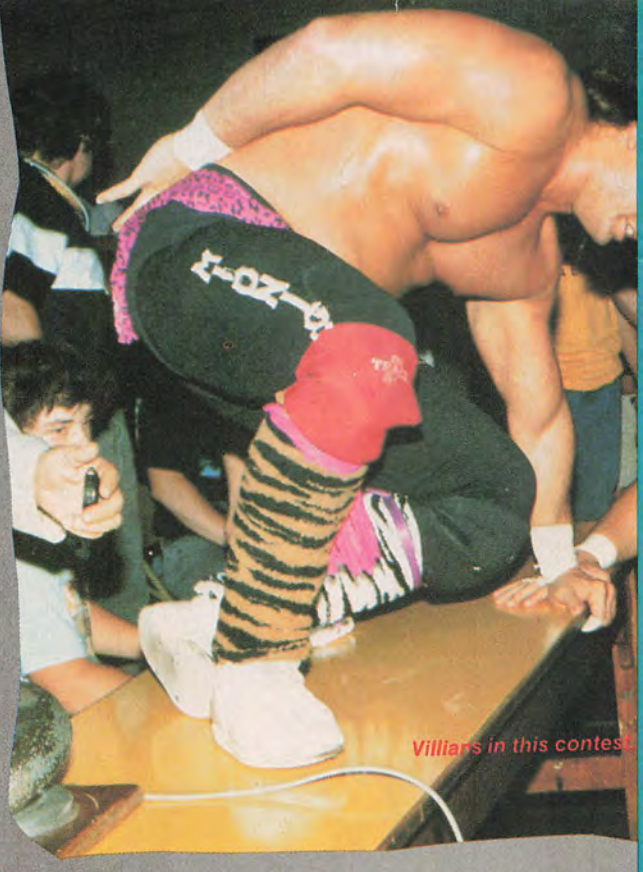
AN GENE, JIMMY HART AND THE HONKY TONK MAN

Caught in Rocky Johnson's grinding headlock is Buddy Rose.



Villians in this contest

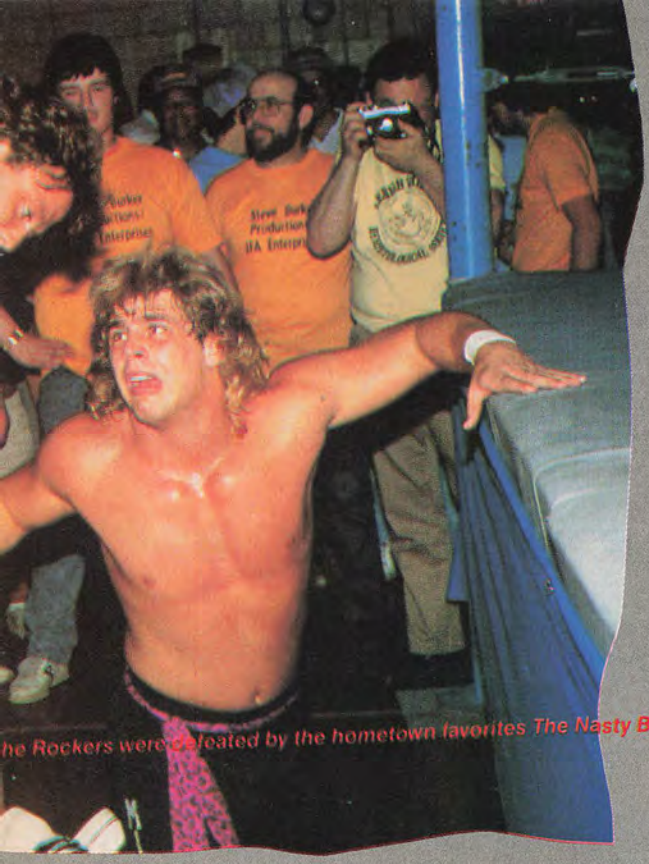
"WREST GREATE INDEPE CARD!"

"THE T.W.W.F. DELIV

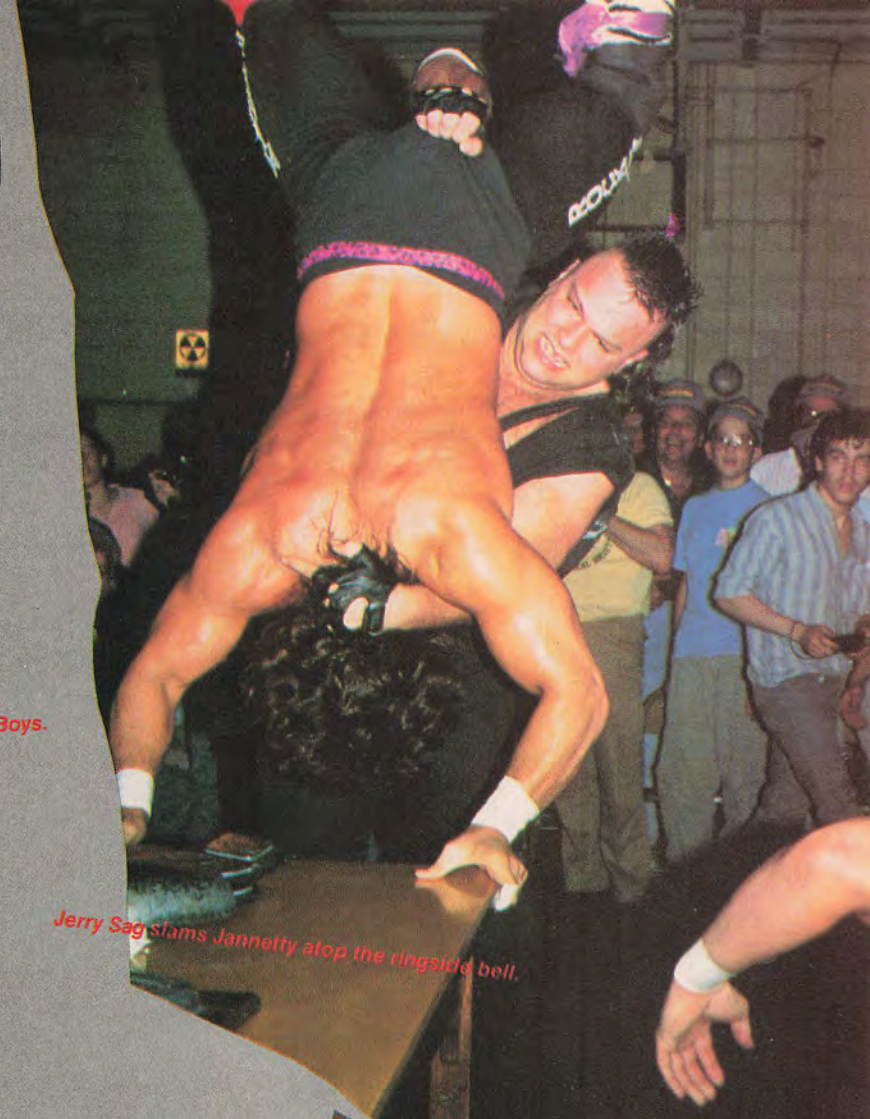
The finest independent car Allentown, Pa. A capacity c the wrestlers battle each ot torturous battles. Wrestling this! Here's a look at some

By DeSpirito

In one of the greatest matches of the year, Nasty Boy Jerry Sag whips Sean Michaels into the turnbuckle.



he Rockers were defeated by the hometown favorites The Nasty Boys.



Jerry Sag slams Jannetty atop the ringside bell.

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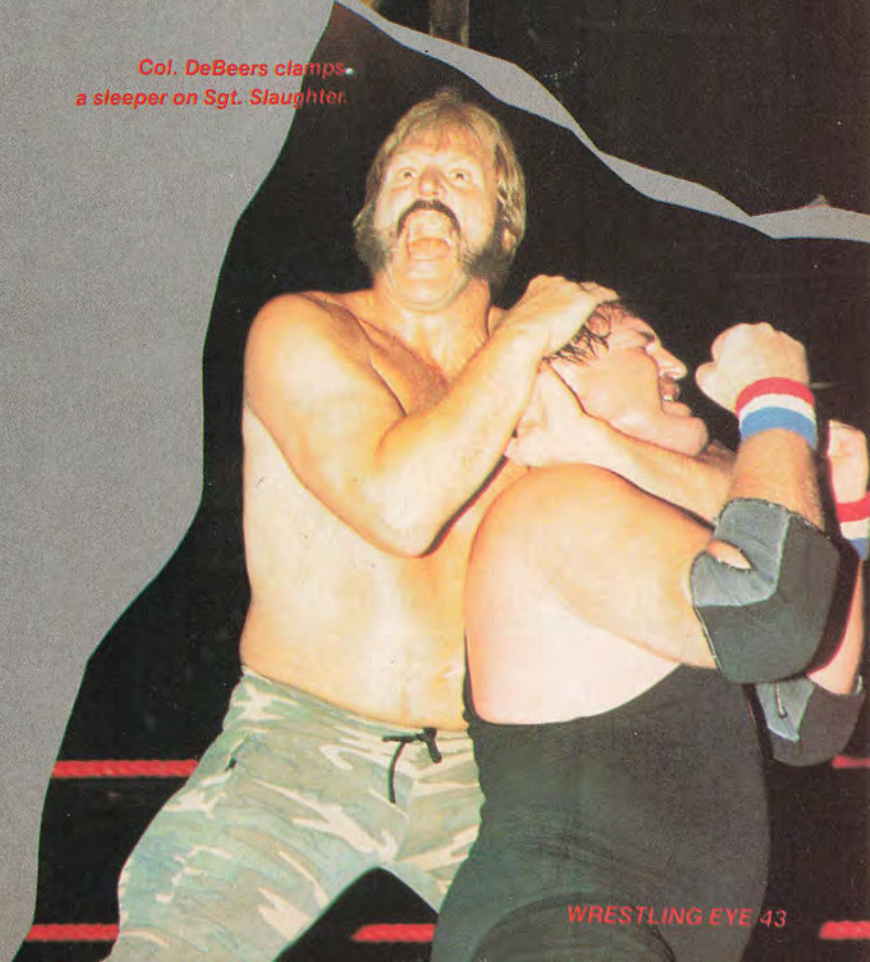
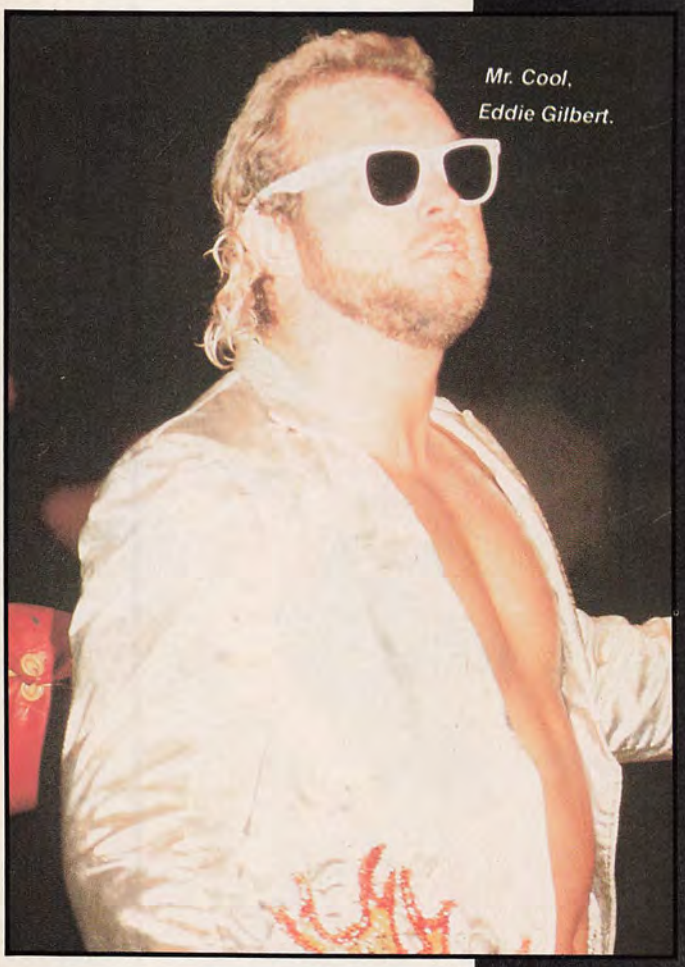


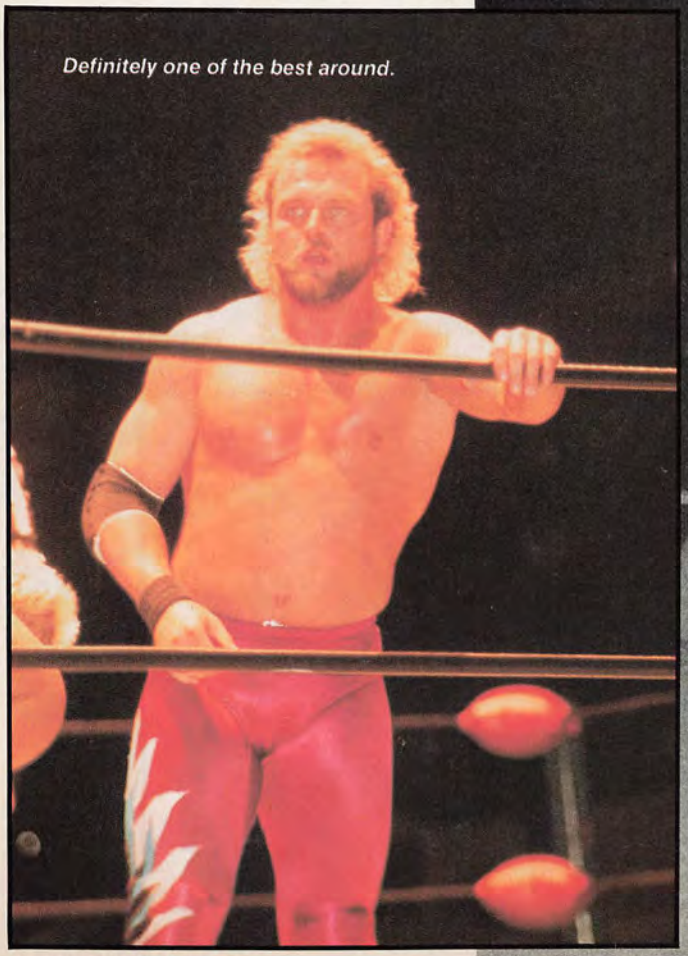
Col. DeBeers clamps a sleeper on Sgt. Slaughter.

'ERS!''

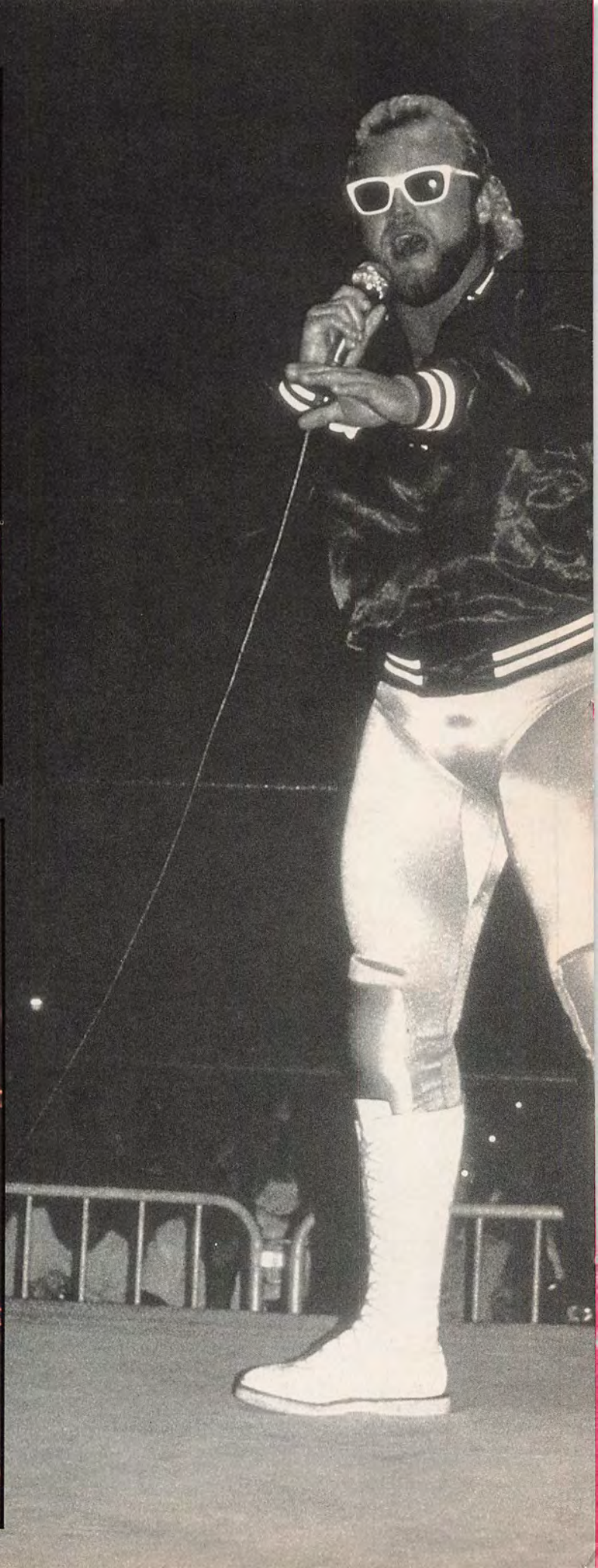
d of the year was held in rowd was on hand to watch ner in grueling, bloody and just doesn't get any better of the matches.

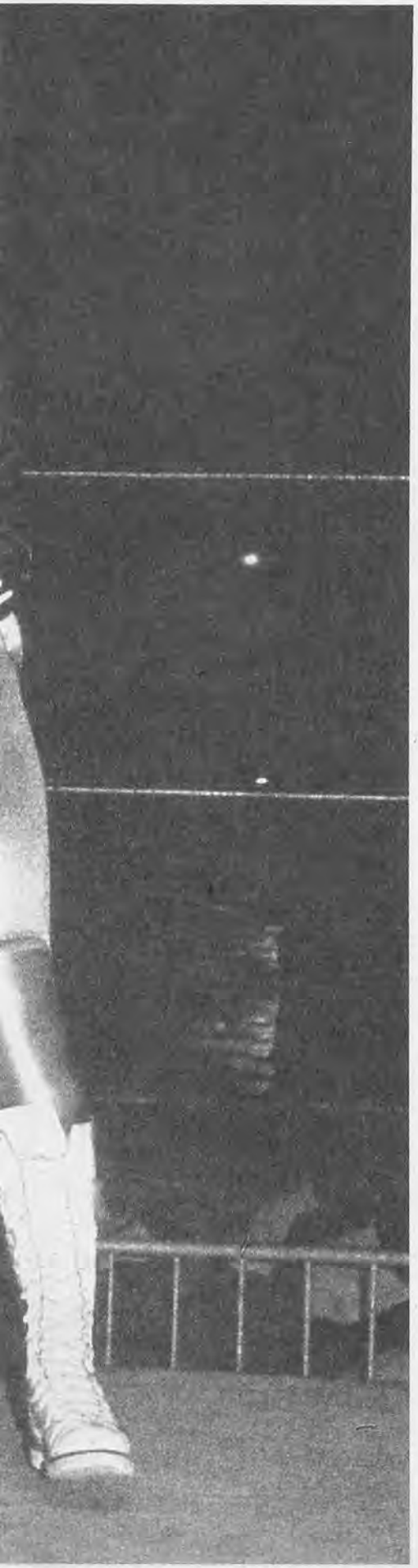


Mr. Cool, Eddie Gilbert.



Definitely one of the best around.





"Eddie Gilbert"

"THE C.W.F.'s TOP GUN"

By Don Liable

Nothing has proven to be more appealing to the wrestling fan from the die-hard supporter to the casual match attender, to have their interest constantly rekindled by way of ever changing feuds, new talent given an opportunity to prove their worth and, perhaps most importantly, innovative thinking by wrestlers on ways to not only capture but keep a loyal following. Some promotional organizations have acted in ways the infamous circus master mind P.T. Barnum would have been proud of if he were around today. Snakes, dogs, birds and alligators, along with so many other characters in the entertainment field have found major roles in self-proclaimed major leagues of wrestling. None of that promotional shortcoming is prevalent in the Alabama based Continental Wrestling Federation. The key ingredient to the southern's group's soaring success is "Hotstuff" Eddie Gilbert. Young, talented, dedicated, and above all else, highly professional, Gilbert has influenced those around him with his wrestling style. The results of "Hotstuff's" influences have single-handedly converted the CWF to one of America's wrestling hotbeds.

'For the first time in my career I am comfortable and in control of my wrestling activities as I could wish for. What more can I possibly ask for. Paul E. Dangerously is now my manager, the gorgeous, and I do mean gorgeous, Missy Hyatt is doing a first rate job in directing my business affairs and my father Tommy and my brother Doug are the top tag team from Memphis to Miami. Things are getting better and better for me. The CWF recognized my talents and from all indications from the arena box-office receipts, I am the new King of wrestling,' "Hotstuff" proudly proclaimed while in Montgomery, Alabama.

Being acknowledged as the "King" by fans and fellow wrestlers, predominately by those in the Dangerously stable, has installed a significant amount of self-confidence in Gilbert. Without question, "Hotstuff" is the number one athlete, the top gun of the CWF today. Every city in which he appears, the media hounds him to answer allegations of insinuating actions. It's not safe to be within arms distance of Gilbert, and not just in the vicinity of a wrestling ring. Be it in parking lots, television studios, locker-rooms, wherever an opponent or even a future competitor may be, if he is on the "hit" list of "Hotstuff", he is in for a "warm reception," to say the least. Mysterious fire balls have come from the hands of Gilbert. Promoter Jerry Jarrett, Jerry Lawler, Bill Dundee and even TV announcers aren't safe from "Hotstuff's" burning rage as Memphis mic man Randy Hales was scarred with second degree burns to his face. Intimidation is another important arsenal in Gilbert's push for power in CWF ring wars. Now, whenever a soul is brave enough to step in the ring with "Hotstuff", it's not just the leg sweeps or figure four leg locks that worries them but it's the hot flashing flame that occupies their mat thoughts, first and foremost.

'Listen to all those crybabys. It sounds like the second coming of George Cannon. Eddie and I are so confident in his wrestling abilities that I'm offering ten thousand dollars to any man that can pin him for the three count. How's that for a wager! Everywhere Eddie has appeared, besides being a colorful

What does Eddie's future hold in store?

personality, he has been a first rate wrestler. When he was in the National Wrestling Alliance, Eddie baffled and bruised the biggest and the best they had to offer. Nikita Koloff, Sting and the "Bull of the Woods" himself—Dusty Rhodes learned an important lesson when they stepped in the ring with "Hotstuff"—it's not how big your muscles are that allow you to call yourself a wrestler, it's knowledge that will ultimately dictate how well and for how long a person will last in this sport. It's my privilege to handle his ring duties, after all, one day "Hotstuff" will be the world champion and you know as well as I do, everyone loves a winner,' Paul E. Dangerously said.

It is by no accident that Eddie Gilbert of Lexington, Tennessee has made it to the top of his craft. The 5'11" 225 lb. third generation wrestler has had some of the greatest names in wrestling history assist in training him. Dory Funk, Jr. and his brother Terry, both former NWA Heavyweight Champions, Jack Brisco and Jackie Fargo, along with his father Tommy and grandfather Arlee Gilbert all had a hand in molding Eddie into the aggressive competitor that he is. While still in high school, when most teenagers look forward to attending dances or getting together for parties, Eddie was on the road to Malden, Missouri to wrestle for Promoter Henry Rogers. In the tiny hamlet of Malden the weekly matches at the local arena was the highlight, the place to be, the thing to do. Many big-time names in the sport today received their wrestling apprenticeship courtesy of Henry Rogers. KoKo B. Ware and The Honky Tonk Man both started their mat careers in Malden.

'I won't say Eddie Gilbert isn't a talented athlete. When he was just starting out we teamed in the ring, we worked out together, I took him under my wing, as the saying goes. We were close. When he left Memphis for the World Wrestling Federation in 1983, I put a word in for him with then Champ Bob Backlund. The Gilbert family was always special to me. Now, one by one they are on the top of my enemy list. Eddie burned my face pretty good. I was out of action for a month, that I can't excuse and if it's the last thing I do, the score will be evened. He's no longer a boy. Eddie Gilbert is a man who now must answer for his actions,' an angered Jerry Lawler stated.

The fans in the CWF region consisting mainly of Alabama and Mississippi, along with parts of Northern Florida and parts of Tennessee, although the majority disapprove of his ring tactics, still continue to pay their way into arenas to try to figure out his next, often unorthodox, moves. While some promotions parade the same talent in some cases for a year or two, and become stale in the fans eyes, the CWF has a revolving door of fresh, exciting new wrestlers. 'Some of the best bodies in wrestling are here. Dutch Mantel, Shane Douglas, Tracy Smothers, Ken Wayne and Tom Pritchard lead the pack. These guys can last upwards to an hour on the canvas. If you aren't in peak physical condition, you just won't last in the CWF. With the very best competition here, when my hand is raised in victory, then I know I've accomplished something I can be proud of. What I'm truly looking forward to is getting the likes of Mike Graham, Steve Keirn and Jeff Jarrett to sign contracts to face me, then, once I've squashed those so-called legends, I'll really be known from coast to coast,' Gilbert said.

During a recent match pitting Gilbert against Austin Idol in Dothan, Alabama, the fans and especially the future challengers of "Hotstuff" found out just how much endurance and intestinal fortitude the Lexington native has.

Idol, a well built, seasoned veteran who outweighed his opponent by forty pounds was involved in the brawl of his life. Yes, when called upon, Gilbert can use his fists as well as his various wrestling holds, even Ric Flair should take note. Eddie Gilbert is afraid of no man. Idol opened up Gilbert's forehead ten minutes into their encounter by ramming "Hotstuff's" head into the steel ring post. The two seemed to spend more time battling on the arena floor than on the mat canvas. After it was clear to the referee that the uncontrollable mayhem was set to continue on, the bell rang to halt the action. Gilbert and Idol were finally separated by security and fellow wrestlers. Outweighed and smaller in height, Eddie Gilbert held his own without giving up any ground as the toughest wrestling package in the south. Bloodied and battered, "Hotstuff" let the burning desire to one day capture the world heavyweight title carry him through such a painful ordeal.

Gilbert doesn't need entrance music or an animal lurking at his side to gain notoriety, just a worthy opponent.

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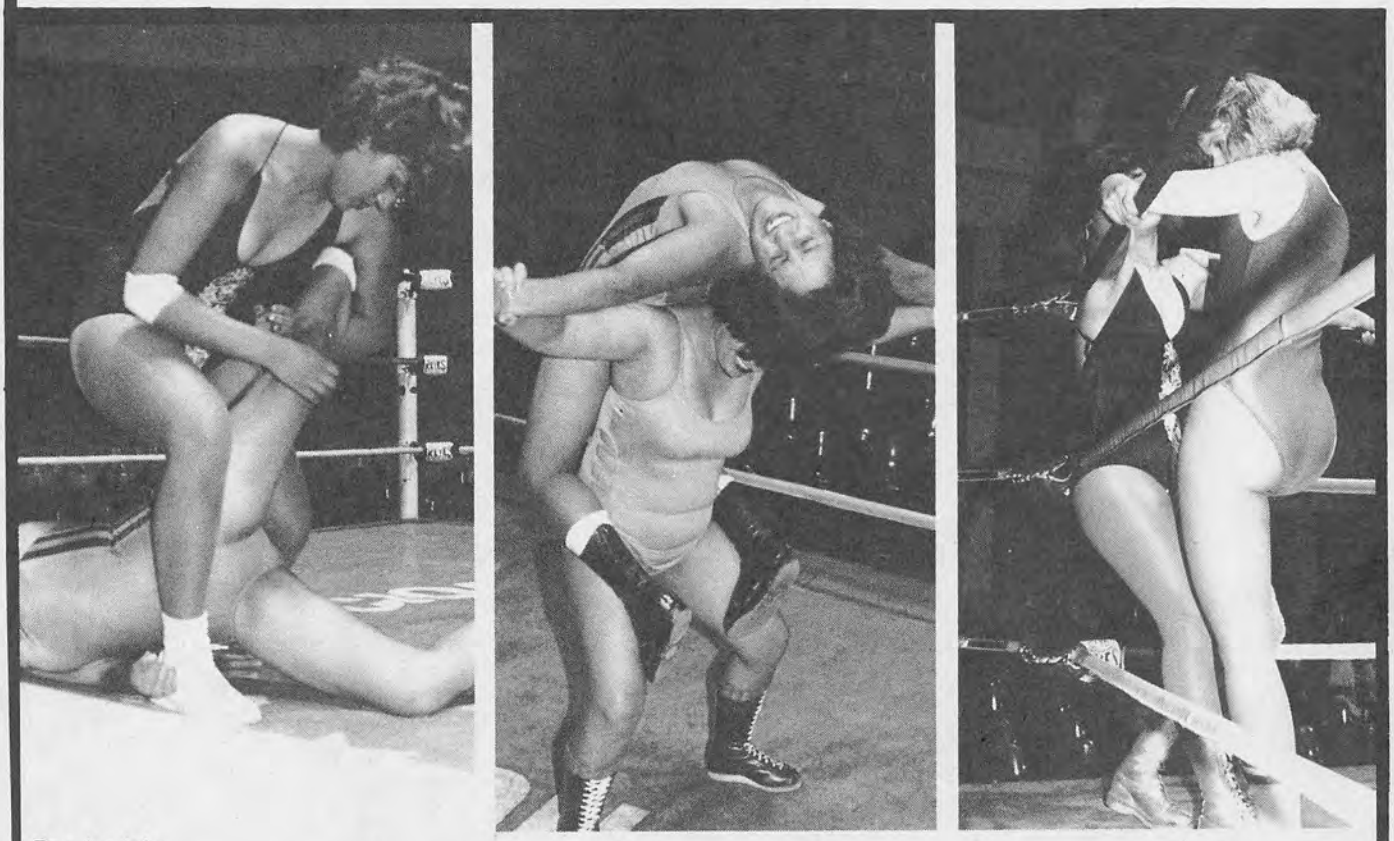
PHANTOM of the ring

Oh well, the summer wars are in full swing and by the end of the fall though most of the hype will die down... ***Hulk Hogan's*** *wife had a baby boy recently. The boy weighed 10 lbs., 3 ounces...* ***The Iron Sheik*** *is coming back into the W.W.F. limelight. It's great to see him back...Soon network T.V. the W.W.F. will be staging a 'wedding' between* ***Elizabeth*** *and* ***Randy Savage. Liz*** *and* ***Randy*** *have been happily married already for years! ...Dr. 'D'* ***David Shultz*** *is now, get this, a real life bounty hunter. That's right! Next month will have a feature story on this...Rumor has it that* ***Tom Zenk*** *may be working at Chippendales soon, possibly in the Toronto area...The W.W.F. had to change* ***Big Bubba's*** *name to* ***The Boss Man*** *because* ***Big Bubba*** *is copyrighted by Jim Crockett Promotions...Rumor has it that* ***Owen Hart*** *will be entering the W.W.F. but as the* ***Cheetah Kid.*** *There is one problem though, the original* ***Cheetah Kid*** *who is a superstar in the independent ranks has been wrestling with that name for more than eight years now. The W.W.F. could have a good lawsuit on their hands ...Big* ***John Studd*** *should return in a month or so...* ***David Sammartino*** *who is no longer wrestling for the W.W.F. is currently wrestling in Japan for Baba's promotion. The best to David, he's one great wrestler...Rumor has it that Ted Turner the owner of WTBS may buy out Jim Crockett Promotions. That may just be a good idea. Finally they'll have a 'businessman' running the organization that has a lot more potential marketing and promotional wise...The W.W.F. is cutting back costs, only using managers on T.V. taping and large arenas. You would think that the W.W.F. has plenty of money, but it appears they're in debt...The Canadian team of the* ***Rougeaus*** *are being managed by* ***Frenchie Martin*** *now, and they look just great...The* ***Midnight Rockers*** *wrestled the* ***Nasty Boys*** *on a T.W.W.F. card in Allentown, Pa., recently.* ***The Rockers,*** *strangely enough, wrestled as rulebreakers, and the favorites wee the Nasty Boys.* ***Brian Knobs*** *is originally from Allentown. It was a terrific match to say the least.* ***The Rockers*** *make great rulebreakers and some of the falls they took out on the floor and over the top rope were just unbelievable! Also on this great card were* ***David Sammartino, Rocky Johnson, Buddy Rose, Doug Somers, Afa the Wild Somoan, Col. DeBeers*** *and* ***Sgt. Slaughter...*** *Fans have you seen 'The Super Ninja'* ***Keiji Muto?*** *He's one hell of a great wrestler and has improved tremendously since his Florida wrestling days. He's definitely one of the greatest in the world...* ***Tama*** *of the Islanders has been having some problems with the World Wrestling Federation. If he leaves, lord knows where he'll turn up...A new tag team to look for in the future are the* ***Twin Towers*** *who were trained by* ***Johnny Rodz. The Twins*** *are new to the sport but look pretty good considering...* ***Prof. Toru Tanaka*** *has just come out with a new T.V. commercial with Pat Morita...* ***Abdullah*** *was recently hospitalized with a kidney problem...* ***Rodney Piper*** *can be seen in a new John Carpenter (Halloween) movie...more from Tinseltown.* ***Piper's*** *movie Hell Comes to Frogtown was distributed to video stores only and not released in movie theaters because of executive red tape... **Cyndi Lauper*** *and* ***Capt. Lou Albano*** *are just about wrapping their new movie...Seems that the WWF is doing just fine without* ***Hulk Hogan.*** *The gates have been fine and attendance hasn't slackened off.* ***Michael Mercury*** *of MWF fame was in an automobile accident in Chicago. He's currently in critical condition in a Chicago area hospital with injuries to the head, back, both legs, ribs and arms as well as various cuts and abrasions. We wish him a speedy recovery. You may write Michael c/o MWF 3612 N. Christiana, Chicago, Ill 60618...* ***Hulk Hogan's*** *movie is tentatively titled "No Holds Barred" & went into production on June 6th. Until next month the Phantom will be gathering all the gossip, news and rumors that you fans love so much!!!*

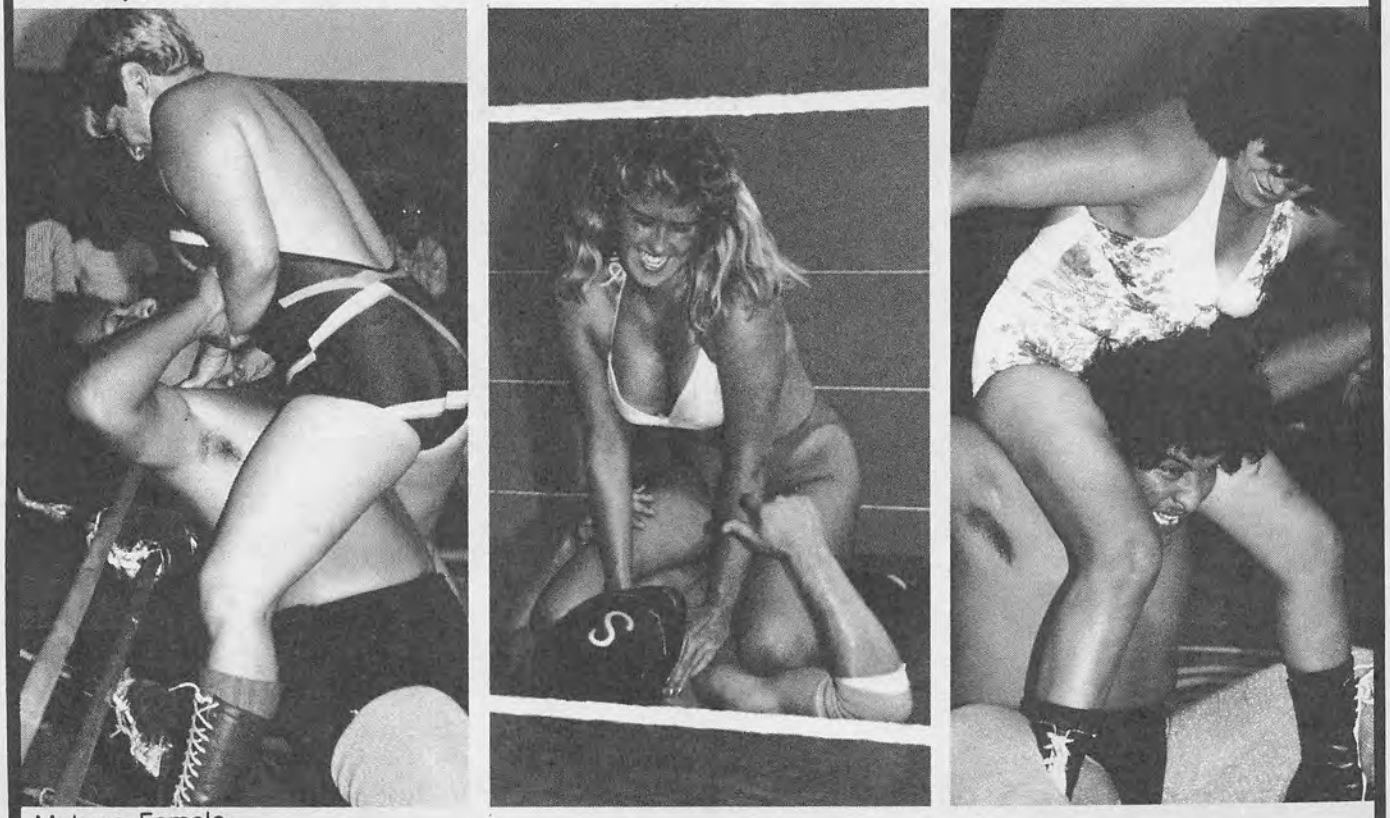
The Amazing Michael Mercury of MWF fame was badly injured in an automobile accident.

Videos & Photos
Real Matches in Pro Ring

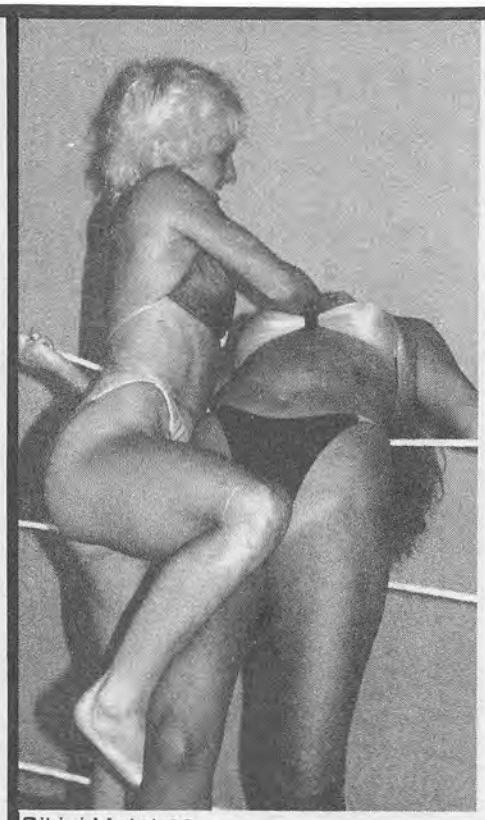
LADY WRESTLING!

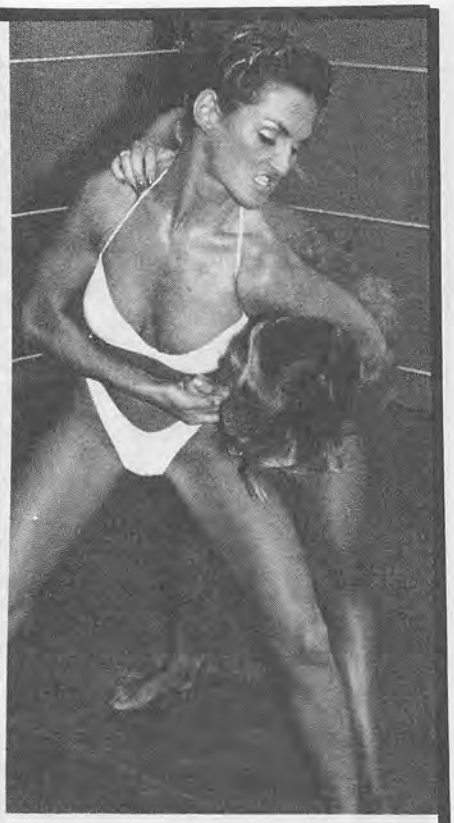


Pro Lady's

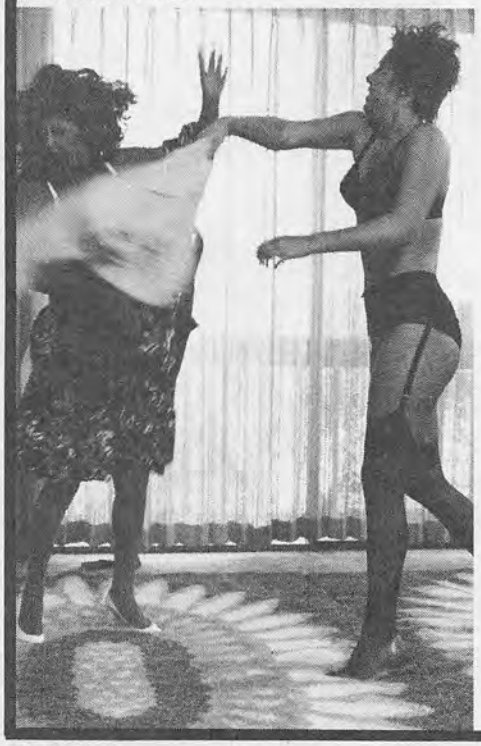


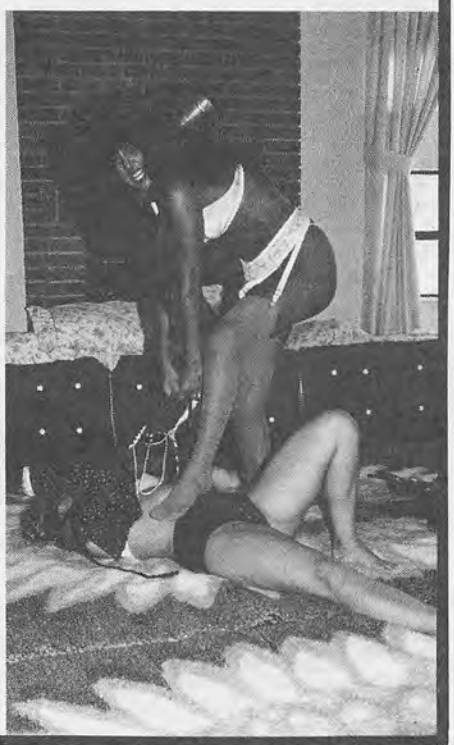
Male vs. Female





Bikini Matches





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$ 57 ☐ 2 Hour Bikini Matches	$ 57 ☐ 2 Hour Pro Lady's	$ 57 ☐ 2 Hour Male vs. Female	$ 57 ☐ 2 Hour Cat Fight
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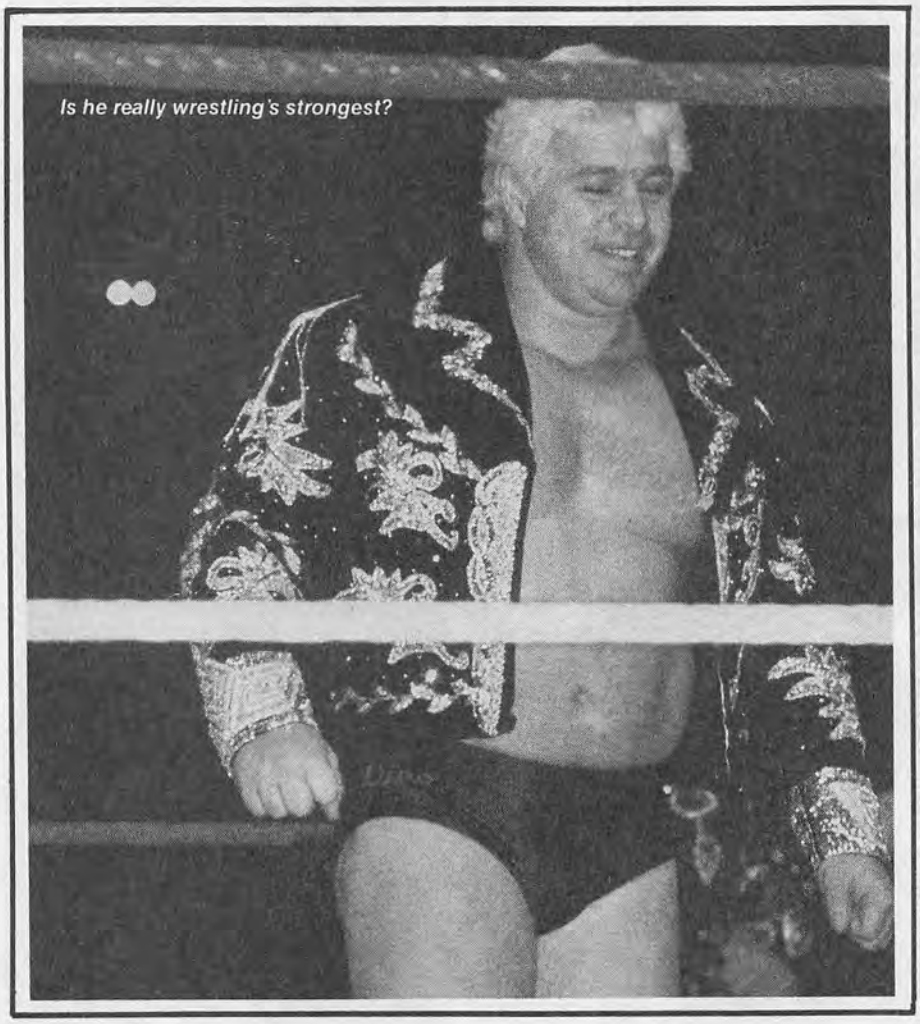


Is he really wrestling's strongest?

"DINO BRAVO"

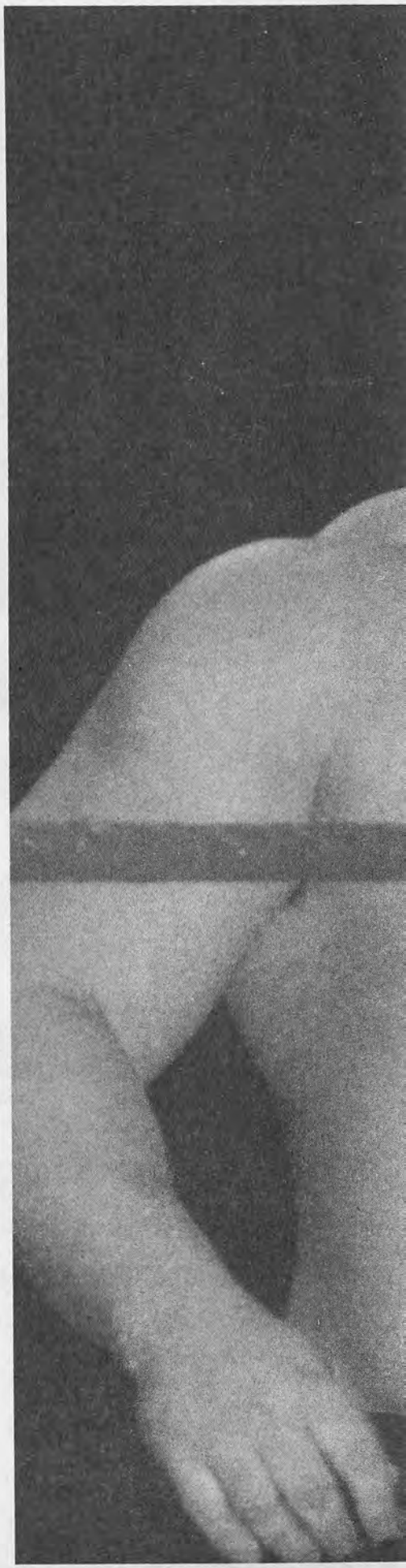
"Canada's Powerhouse"

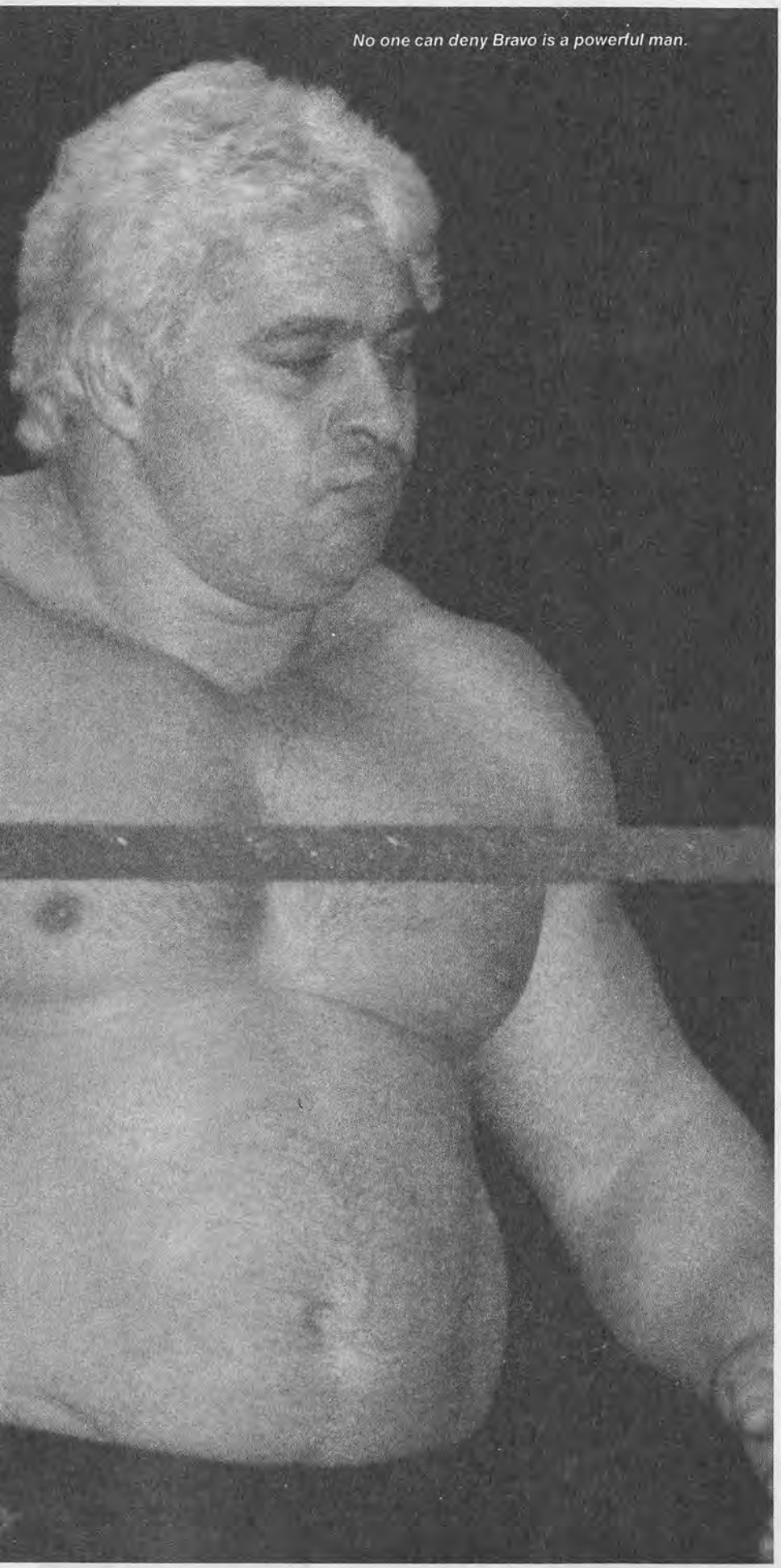
By Tom Clutters

Many times, certain feuds which take place in the World Wrestling Federation fail to generate much interest. As a matter of fact, many of the recent WWF feuds have nearly put fans to sleep.

Recently, however, a couple of confrontations have managed to generate some genuine interest. The coming battle between Jake "The Snake" Roberts and "Ravishing" Rick Rude has almost limitless potential for memorable matches. Also, the struggle between strongmen Dino Bravo and Ken Patera would have to rank high on any fan's list. Bravo, a native of Canada whose major success in the WWF came as a tag team partner of Greg Valentine, was "on the fringe" of the WWF talent roster. The decision for the former fan favorite to dye his hair blond and become a rulebreaker was greeted with a great deal of apathy in most circles. Dino struggled at first as a heel, territory which was unfamiliar to him. On the other hand, Patera, after being released from two years in prison, was brought back as a babyface bent on revenge against his former manager, Bobby Heenan. Just like Bravo, however, Ken was virtually ignored.

Now, with Bravo claiming to be the world's strongest man following a questionable bench press of 712 pounds, and Patera, a former Olympic weightlifting standout, taking exception to Dino's claim, the stage has been set.





No one can deny Bravo is a powerful man.

Bravo, after taking on former wrestler Frenchy Martin as his manager, talked for weeks about breaking the world bench press record (705 pounds). He and Martin both insisted that it could be done, and that Bravo could do it. Then, in front of a national audience, Dino made his attempt. However, spotter Jesse Ventura inserted his own brand of controversy when he "assisted" Bravo in lifting the weight (a fact both men deny). Despite the lack of validity in the attempt, Bravo began boasting about being the "world record-holder".

Bravo's claim didn't set well in the minds of many people, including Patera. Ken was fully aware of what role Ventura had played, and knew the exact rules and requirements for a record-breaking attempt. "I saw the entire lift, and there's absolutely no doubt that Jesse Ventura helped Bravo," said Kenny. "I doubt that anyone in this sport knows any more about lifting than I do, but anyone could see that Bravo's 'world record' is a joke." Indeed, as a medalist for the United States at the 1972 Munich Olympics, Patera probably has as much knowledge of the sport as anyone, and when he talks of Bravo's bogus effort, you have to listen.

In any event, both men took up the feud with a vengeance. Veteran wrestling fans knew that the two had battled before, but as the WWF has been known to do, it ignored past Bravo/Patera clashes. Only a few years ago, Dino and Ken were involved in one of the hottest feuds ever seen in the Mid-Atlantic area. It began when Patera (then a hated "bad guy") and partner John Studd attacked Tony Atlas and Jay Youngblood, two Bravo friends. Atlas, in particular, was close to Bravo, who immediately vowed revenge on Patera and Studd. The thought of gaining revenge became almost an obsession with Bravo, who was injured on more than one occasion during the war. After disposing of Studd, Dino set his sights on the former Olympian. Several of their matches were brutal, with both men putting their careers on the line. Bravo's dazzling scientific style was countered by the roughhouse tactics employed by Patera, and neither man was able to gain a clear-cut

During a battle royal Dino slugs it out with another powerhouse. Jim Niedhart.

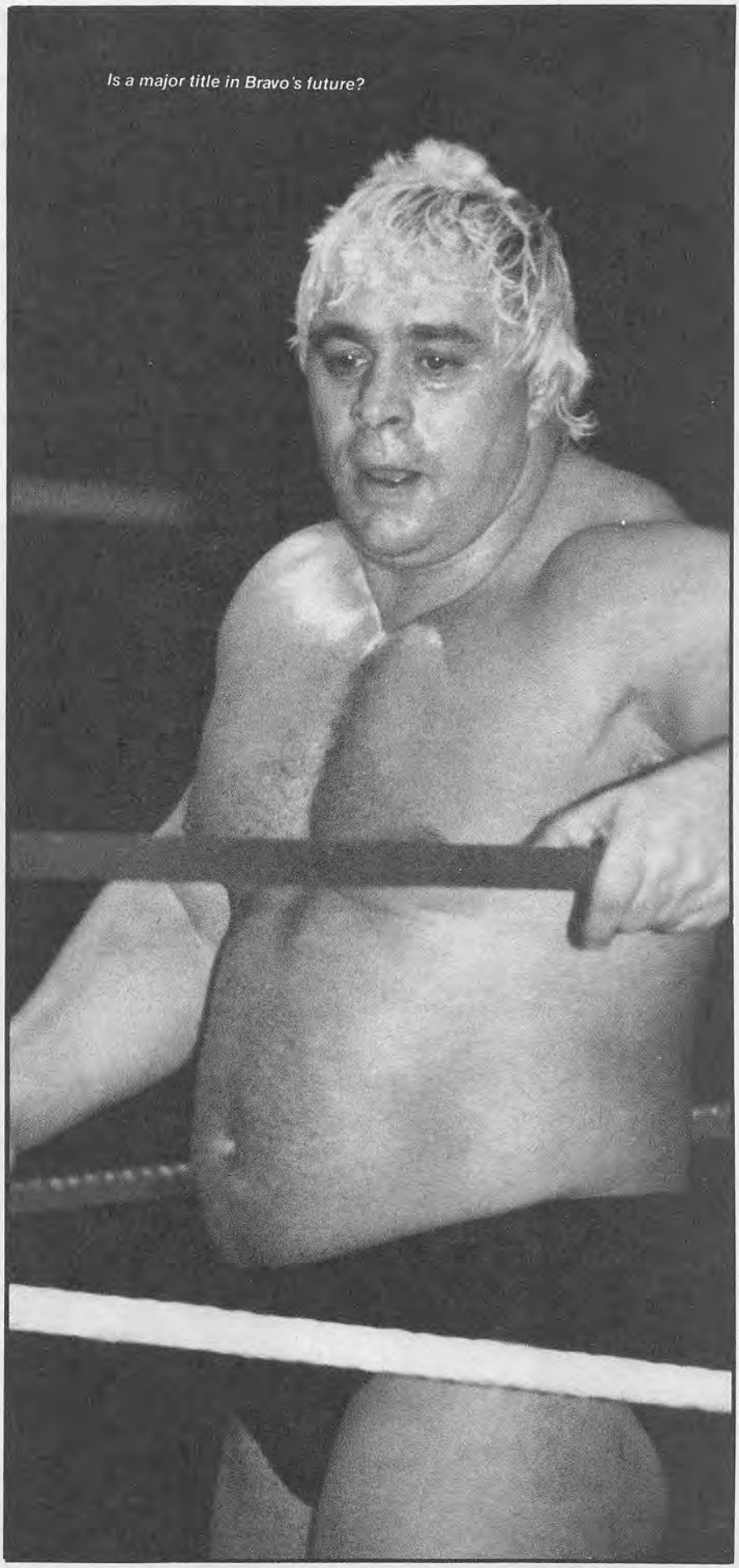
advantage.

The hard feelings have been carried by both men to this day, although while both have been in the WWF, they never met regularly. While Bravo was involved with Valentine in the forgettable "Dream Team" gimmick, Patera spent much of his time battling against Heenan and his family. Unfortunately for Heenan, neither King Kong Bundy, Andre the Giant, nor Hercules Hernandez could prevent Patera from his payback, and Heenan suffered an injured neck which continues to bother the boastful manager even today.

In his new role as a heel, Bravo seems to relish all the attention he has garnered. "For many years I tried to play up to the fans, to do what they thought I should do," he says. "It finally became clear that if I was going to succeed in the World Wrestling Federation, I was going to have to do things in my own way." According to Bravo, Martin has made a big difference. "Frenchy and I are both proud of our roots, and we will not hesitate to inform all Americans of our heritage. Frenchy has taken my career to new heights with his managerial genius, and I cannot see any limits for us."

Meanwhile, Patera has thought his life and career over and over many times, and thinks he has made a good decision. "I had plenty of time to think about things. I thought about what I had done, and about all the enemies I had made. It made me a little sick to my stomach when I realized how much bad advice I had listened to, and I hope I can pay the fans and my friends back."

No matter what happens in this budding feud, you can be sure that neither man is willing to back down from the other. Despite his arrogant manner and anti-American ravings, Bravo is a quality talent, even though his abilities have taken a back seat to his "image". Should it become necessary to turn to even more savage tactics in order to deal with Patera, Bravo says he will do just that. "Ken Patera is a beaten man. I promise you, I will have no mercy on him. Even though you may not like it, I am the strongest man in wrestling, and my strength and knowledge is a combination that Patera will be unable to deal with."



Is a major title in Bravo's future?

"A LOOK AT HEIDI LEE MORGAN"

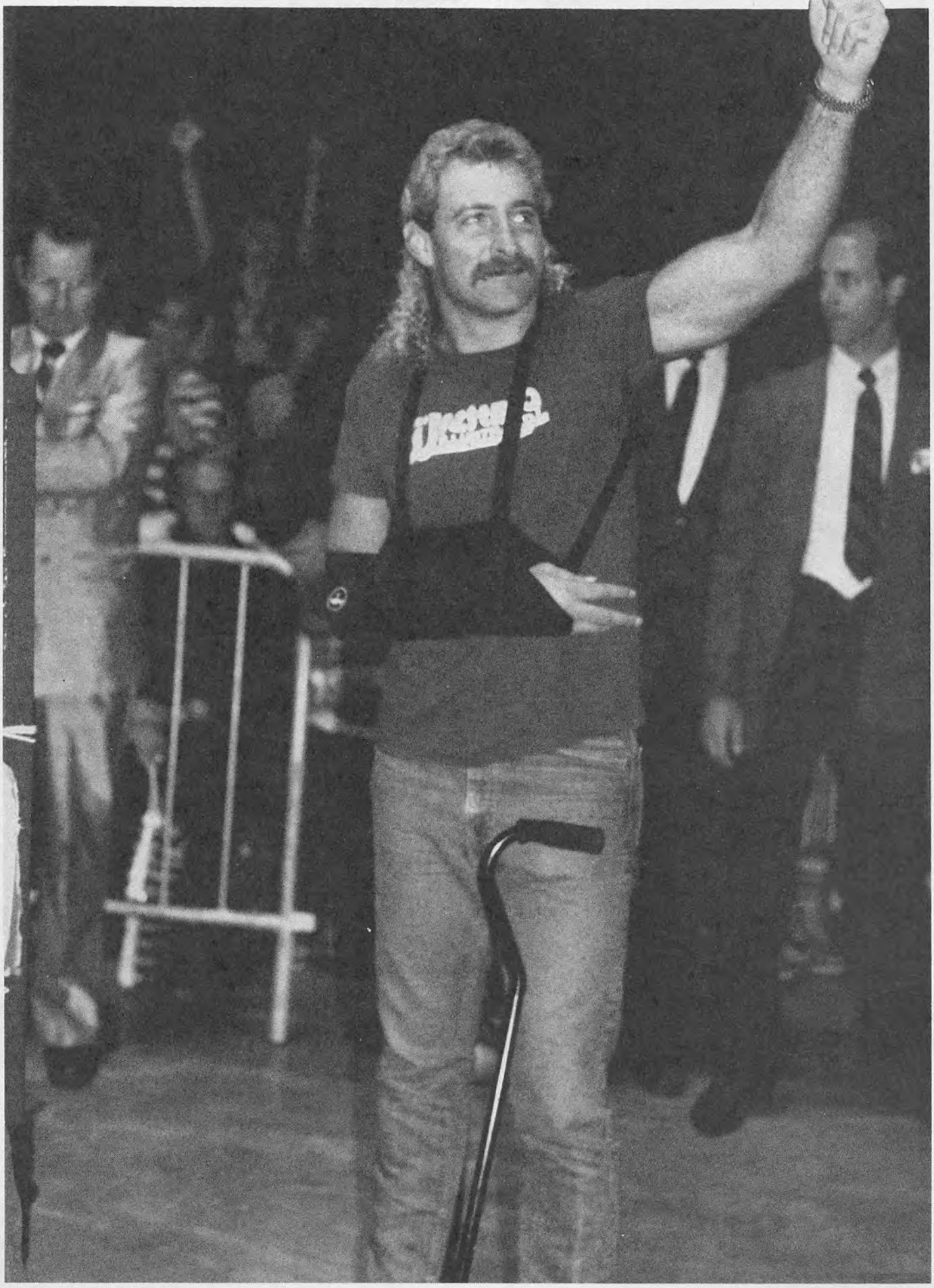
"BEAUTY IN THE RING"

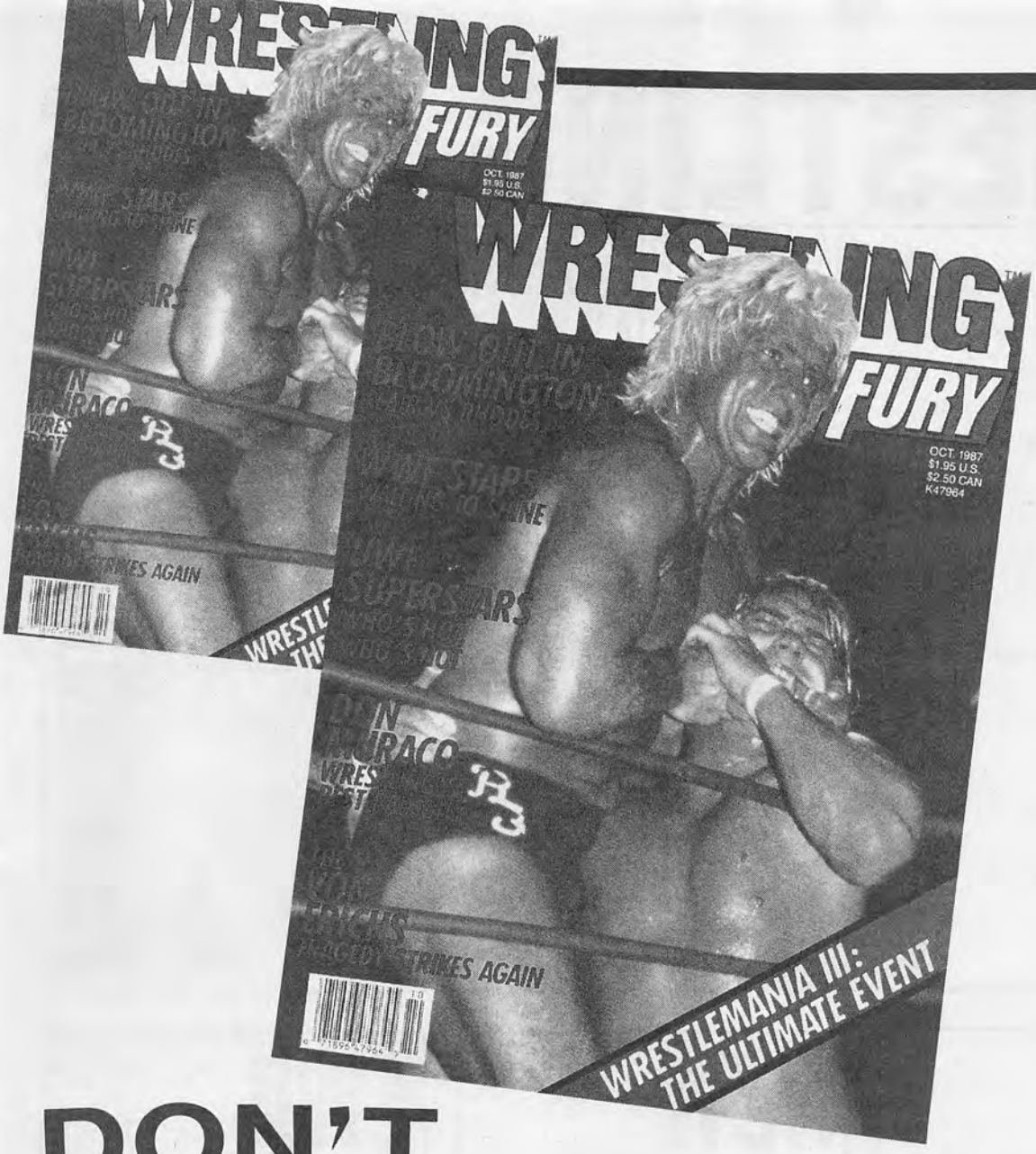
Kati Kincaid wrings the arm of Heidi.

Heidi Lee wrestled Wendi Richter in a steel cage.

Heidi Lee Morgan, a wrestler destined for stardom in the ladies' ranks.

MAGNUM TA





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6. One Man Gang
7. Rick Rude
8. Bret Hart
9. The Ultimate Warrior
10. Dino Bravo
11. Don Muraco
12. The Boss Man
13. Bad News Brown
14. Jake Roberts
15. Bam Bam Bigelow

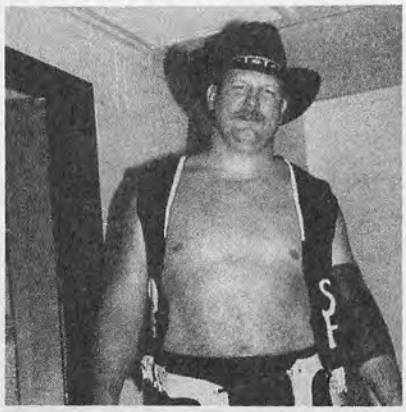
NWA

Champ—Ric Flair

1. Barry Windham
2. Sting
3. Lex Lugar
4. Tully Blanchard
5. Arn Anderson
6. Mike Rotundo
7. Nikita Koloff
8. Larry Zbysko
9. Jimmy Garvin
10. Ron Garvin
11. Bobby Eaton
12. Al Perez
13. Kevin Sullivan
14. Steve Williams
15. Dick Murdoch

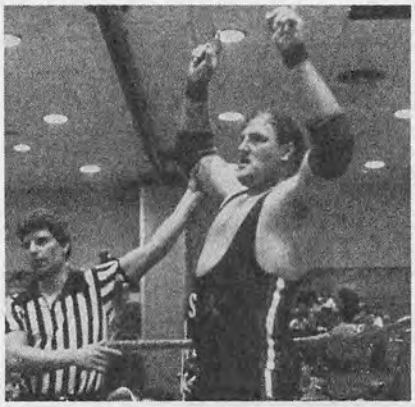
NWF

1. D.C. Drake
2. Sgt. Slaughter
3. Kamala
4. Abdullah The Butcher
5. Stan Hansen
6. Bruiser Brody
7. Cousin Luke
8. Larry Winters
9. Eddie Mirenda
10. Sheik Petruzzi



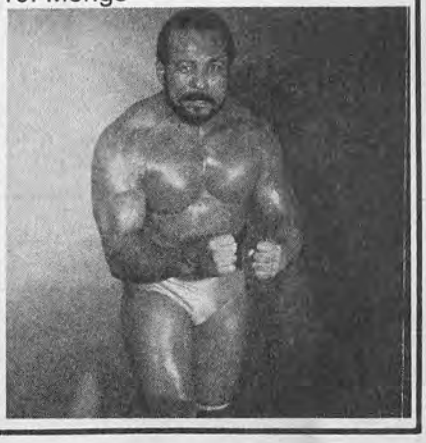
NCW

1. Sgt. Slaughter
2. Rocky Johnson
3. Samu the Samoan
4. Afa the Samoan
5. Cousin Luke
6. Abdullah the Butcher
7. The Cheetah Kid
8. Larry Winters
9. King Kaluha
10. Ron Shaw



EWA

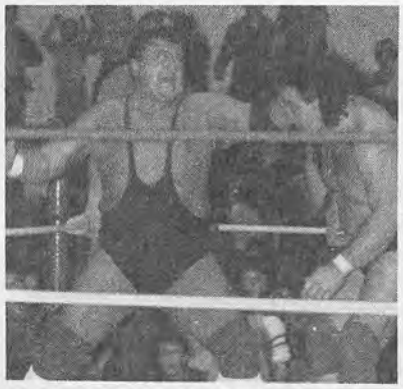
1. Johnny Rodz
2. Sgt. Slaughter
3. Abdullah the Butcher
4. Ted Arcedi
5. Toru Tanaka
6. Johnny Valiant
7. Ox Baker
8. Larry Sharpe
9. Charlie Fulton
10. Mongo



OFFICIAL RATINGS

AWA

1. Jerry Lawler
2. Curt Hennig
3. Wahoo McDaniel
4. Greg Gagne
5. Manny Fernandez
6. Ricky Morton
7. Baron Von Rasche
8. Adrian Adonis
9. Robert Gibson
10. Mitch Snow



WORLD CLASS

1. Kerry Von Erich
2. Iceman Parsons
3. Kevin Von Erich
4. Terry Taylor
5. Chris Adams
6. Missing Link
7. Matt Borne
8. Steve Simpson
9. Sean Simpson
10. Vince Apollo

World WOMEN Ratings

1. Sherri Martel
2. Misty Blue
3. Wendi Richter
4. Heidi Lee Morgan
5. Debbi Combs
6. Candi Devine
7. Linda Dallas
8. Kat Leroux
9. Nina
10. Velvet McIntyre

TOP TEN MANAGERS

1. Jim Cornette
2. Bobby Heenan
3. J.J. Dillon
4. Jimmy Hart
5. Slick
6. Paul Ellering
7. Mr. Fuji
8. Paul E. Dangerously
9. Sheik Ali Abdullah
10. Gary Hart

Top 15 Tag TEAMS

1. Arn Anderson & Tully Blanchard
2. The Road Warriors
3. Demolition
4. Bobby Eaton & Stan Lane
5. Rock 'n' Roll Express
6. Paul Roma & Jimmy Powers
7. The Bulldogs
8. Paul Diamond and Pat Tanaka
9. The Fantastics
10. The Midnight Rockers
11. The Sheepherders
12. The Islanders
13. The Nasty Boys
14. Brian Pillman & Bruce Hart
15. The Simpsons

TOP 15

The WORLD'S TOP 15 (RATED BY WRESTLING ABILITY)

1. Ric Flair
2. Barry Windham
3. Bret Hart
4. Randy Savage
5. Keiji Muto
6. Tully Blanchard
7. Ricky Steamboat
8. Ted DiBiase
9. Riki Choshu
10. Owen Hart
11. Tatsumi Fuginami
12. Brad Armstrong
13. Terry Taylor
14. The Cheetah Kid
15. Bobby Eaton

Fan Club Column

ANY MATERIAL FOR REVIEW OR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE SENT TO: FAN CLUB COLUMN WRESTLING EYE JEMS INC. P.O. BOX 138 MARLBORO, N.J. 07746

Once again, just a reminder to make your check or money order payable to the Editor of the bulletin or fanzine you are ordering and NOT to the name of the publication. Also, WRESTLING EYE runs the Fan Club Column as a service to its readers and assumes no responsibility for those listed below.

REVIEWS

RICHMOND WRESTLING REPORT: Al McIntire, ED. 9348 Telstar Rd, Richmond, Va 23237 .50¢ per issue. Yearly $6.00. Published monthly. All the latest happenings around the Richmond area are covered in this bulletin. A fan of the month is chosen each issue and there is a wrestling game available through the editor. Highly recommended.

WRESTLING NEWS BULLETIN: Niles Driskell, ED. 3010 W. Cypress Dr., Muncie, Indiana 47304 $1.25 per issue. Yearly $12.00. Published monthly.

This is a nicely done bulletin that gives you the latest on the going ons in the wrestling world. You'll get results, rating and some interesting features. Definitely recommended.

GLOBAL MAT INFORMATION: David Howell, ED. 116 Woodbury Ave, Stamford, Ct 06907 $1.50 per issue. Yearly $15.00. Published monthly.

This neatly packaged bulletin certainly is worth a look. The computer graphics and concise type make it easy to read and the features, ratings and results, trivia contests and video reviews certainly give you your money's worth.

WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER: Dave Meltzer, ED. PO Box 1228 Campbell, Ca 95009-1228 $5.00 per four issue set. Published weekly. This is one MUST HAVE newsletter. You'll get an inside, behind the scenes look at the sport and the writing and style of the editor are of the highest quality. Subscribe today to find out how much you were really missing!

THE PRO WRESTLING TORCH: Wade Keller, ED. PO Box 201844, Bloomington, Mn 55420 $1.25 per issue. Published every other Thursday. The TORCH really gives you some interesting reading each issue. There's news, ratings, columns and commentaries and you get a free color photo with each issue. Order your copy today.

PRO WRESTLING ENQUIRER: Harvey Cobb, ED. 2619 Ruffin Way, Norfolk, Va 23504 $2.00 per issue. Yearly $16.00. Published eight times a year. This bulletin is the "premiere source of wrestling information" and certainly gives you a lot of inside information each issue. You'll be sure to enjoy the interesting tidbits of gossip, news and results. Back issues are available for $3.00 each. Write the editor for further details.

SQUARED CIRCLE OF TORONTO: Monica Watts and Tina Delwiss, EDS. 1 Dean Park Rd, Apt 1115, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1B 2W5 $2.00 per issue plus $1.00 postage and handling in Canadian funds ONLY.

Published bimonthly.

If you want to get a view of wrestling Canadian style, this is the bulletin for you. The editors write in a chatty and informal manner and the reading is light and easy. All major federations are covered and if getting Canadian funds are no problem for you, this is definitely worth a look.

GLOBAL WRESTLING NEWS SERVICE: Tom Burke, ED. 31 Groveland St, Springfield, Ma 01108 $1.50 per issue plus SASE. $7.00 for four issues and yearly $21.00.

This is an institution among all fanzines on the market today. Results, news and nostalgia and newspaper clippings round out this fine publication. Take a look at this one, you won't be sorry.

WRESTLING WIRE: Barbi Barker, ED. 2019 Third Ave, New Brighton, Pa 15066 $1.60 per issue. Published monthly.

This one has achieved staying power and that's no easy feat in this game. That alone should tell you something about the quality of the newsletter. You'll get results and some interesting features. The editor is also president of the Bret Hart Fan Club. Write her at the above address for further details.

Note: Pinfall will no longer be published.

CORRESPONDENCE

BILL OVERHOLSER—Age 16, 95 W. 12th St, Bayonne, NJ 07002 would like to hear from fans of Ted DiBiase, the Young Stallions, "Hacksaw" Duggan, Sting, the Four Horsemen minus Barry Windham, Billy Graham, Michael Hayes and Hot Rod. Also, anyone who can't stand the way Brutus Beefcake's pants come down over his boots.

CHRIS DEL VECCHIO—Age 15, 3184 Alabama Rd, Camden, NJ 08104 would like to hear from fans who like the Road Warriors, Sting, the Four Horsemen, the Varsity Club, Randy Savage and the Ultimate Warrior. Also, fans who *hate* Dusty and Nikita, Hulk Hogan, Lex Luger and the Von Erichs.

DAWN MARIE LAZARZ—Age 23, 34578 Pem Broke, Livonia, Mi 48152 likes Hulk Hogan, Roddy

Piper, Brutus Beefcake, Tito Santana, George Steele, Ricky Steamboat, Jesse Ventura, Cpl Kirchner, Randy Savage, Lou Albano, Baby Doll, R 'n R Express, Sting, Dusty Rhodes, Sgt Slaughter, Elizabeth, Wendi Richter, Barry Windham and Jake Roberts.

TAMMY McMASTER—Age 16, 21 Valentine St, Cambridge, Ma 02139 would like to hear from all fans of the NWA and WWF.

THERESA TREGASHIS—Age 15, 364 Park St, Carbondale, Pa 18407 wants pen pals who love Brutus Beefcake, Hulk Hogan, Jake Roberts, Macho Man, Young Stallions, British Bulldogs and Strike Force. Will answer all.

ANGELIQUE VARGAS—635 East 211th St, #5B, Bronx, NY 10467 wants to hear from fans of Hulk Hogan, Randy Savage, Jake Roberts, Demolition and more.

JEFF SIMPSON—Age 20, 1203 Bell Ave, Lenoir City, Tn 37771 would like to hear from fans of Lex Luger, Sting and the Fantastics. He is also interested in buying buttons, pictures, posters and videos of these three.

SHANNON CRAWFORD-Bon-Aire MHP Plaza Lot #46, BonAire, Ga 31005 is interested in anything on the Rock 'n Roll Express and welcomes new pen pals.

PENNIE BARBER—Age 23, 1520 98 St, Niagara Falls, NY 14304 would like to hear from all fans of the NWA and especially fans of the Road Warriors, Lex Luger and Sting.

MELISSA MILLARD—825 East Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, Mi 49017 would like to hear from fans of the NWA and WWF. Her favorites are Lex Luger, Stan Lane, Bobby Eaton, Four Horsemen, R 'n R Express, Johnny Ace, Sting, Brutus Beefcake, Bret Hart, Rick Rude, Randy Savage and Greg Valentine.

TOM McMUGH—Age 11, 7908 W. 103 St, Bloomington, Mn 55438 would like to hear from fans of Brutus Beefcake, Randy Savage, Bret Hart, Don Muraco, Ricky Steamboat and Arn Anderson. He promises to answer all letters.

ANGIE MASNER—Age 16, PO Box 127, Marshfield, Mo 65706 would like to hear from fans of the Freebirds, Terry Taylor, Randy Savage, Brutus Beefcake, Michael Hayes, Sting, Bret Hart, Steve Williams, Jeff Raitz and any other World Class or NWA wrestler. She also likes the WWF and will answer all letters within two weeks.

Photographer Bob Miller has hundreds of great shots available. Write him at PO Box 397. Nolanville, Tx 76559

KATI LEONARD—10805 Nadine, H.W. Mi 48070 would like to hear from all Hulkamaniac and fans of Jake Roberts, Lex Luger, Macho Man, Smash, Ric Flair, Brutus Beefcake and anyone who is a former Barry Windham fan.

RODNEY ROWSELL—Age 15, 703 Tamarack Drive, Labrador City, Newfoundland, Canada A2V 2MI would like to hear from fans of the WWF and those who like Hulk Hogan, Ultimate Warrior, Bam Bam Bigelow, Koko B. Ware, Brutus Beefcake, Bret Hart and other good guys.

LAURA KNOTT—Age 14, 1040 N. Summer Ave, Scranton, Pa 18508 loves Sting, likes the Midnight Rockers, Hacksaw Duggan, the Garvins, "Sweet" Stan, Chris Champion, Randy Savage, the Road Warriors and more. Will answer all.

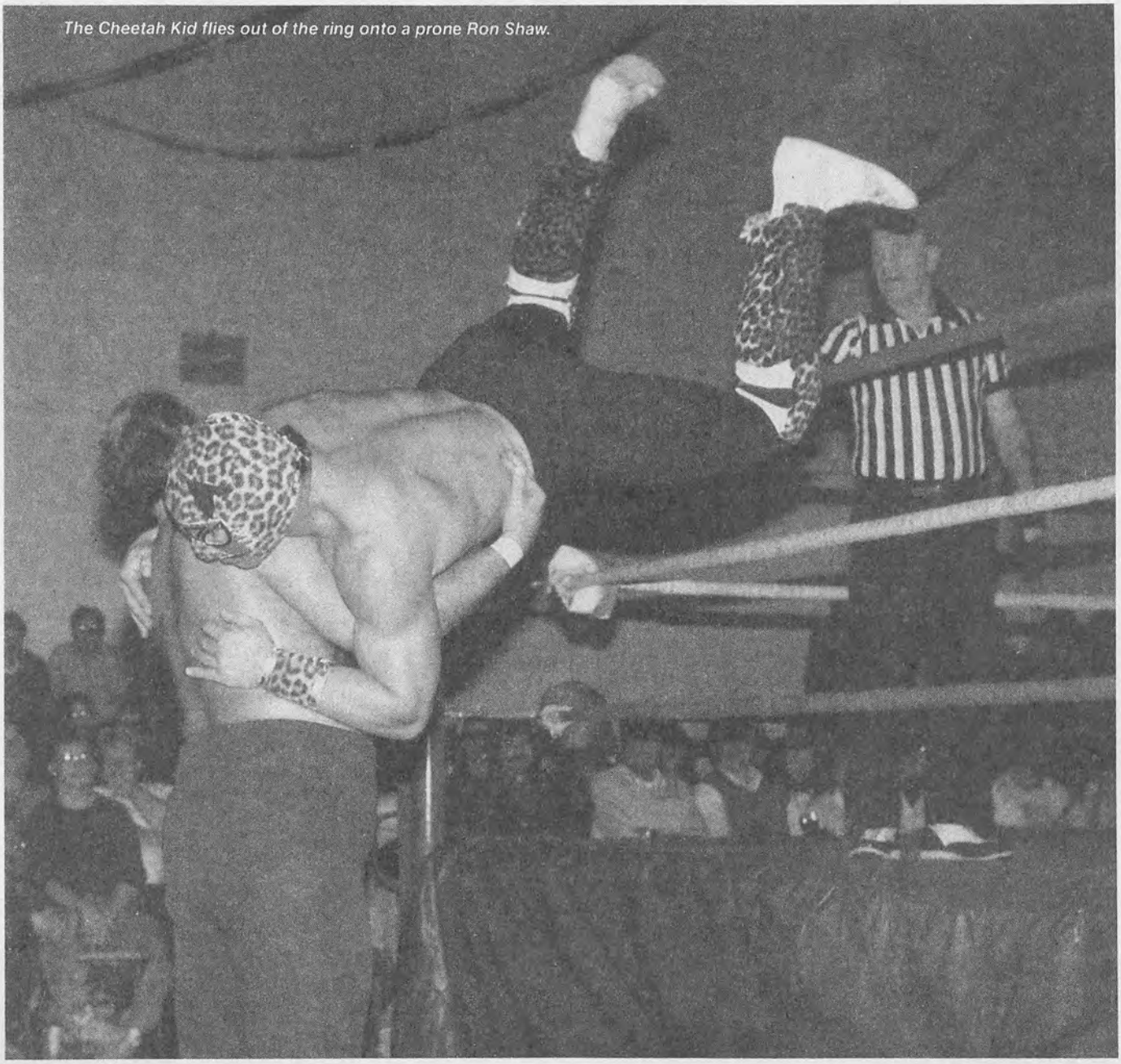
AMY BABARSKY—Age 14, 11 Kimberly Cr, Olyphant, Pa 18447 loves Tim Horner and Terry Taylor and likes Wendall Cooley, Marty Janetty, Ricky Santana, Tully Blanchard, Stan Lane, Ric Flair, Heenan and family, Sting and lots more. Will answer all fans of wrestling.

LESLEY NEWELL—Age 15, 2672 Kenney Dr, San Pablo, Ca 94806 likes Sting, Magnum TA, Lex Luger and loves Barry Windham.

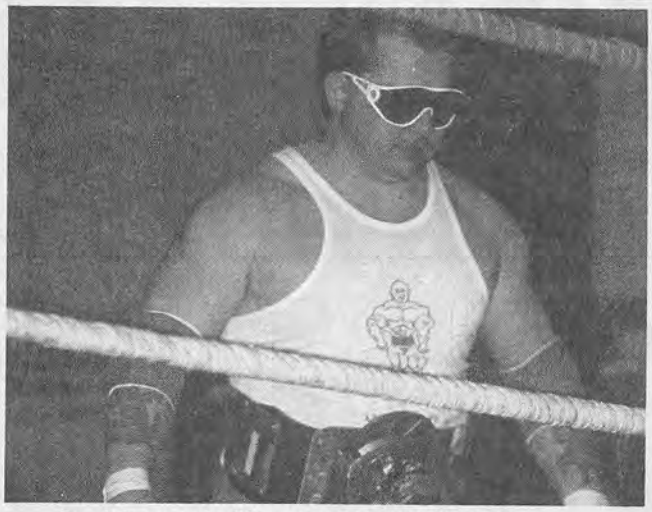
DANIEL W. MARTINEZ—Age 32, PO Box 859, San Juan Pueblo, New Mexico 87566 would love to hear from all fans who like the NWA, WWF and WCCW. His favorites are the Garvins, Dusty Rhodes, the Fantastics, Nikita Koloff, Ricky Steamboat, Ultimate Warrior, Strike Force, Hulk Hogan, British Bulldogs, Young Stallions, Matt Borne, the Von Erichs, Chris Adams, the Simpson Brothers.

D J TVEDT—Route 3 Box 87, Britt, Ia 50423 has good knowledge of WWF and NWA and would like to hear from all fans of any league. His favorites are Sting, Lex Luger, Terry Gordy, Rick Steiner, Nikita Koloff and the Road Warriors. Also wants to hear from people who have wrestlers in the "Imaginary Wrestling Association".

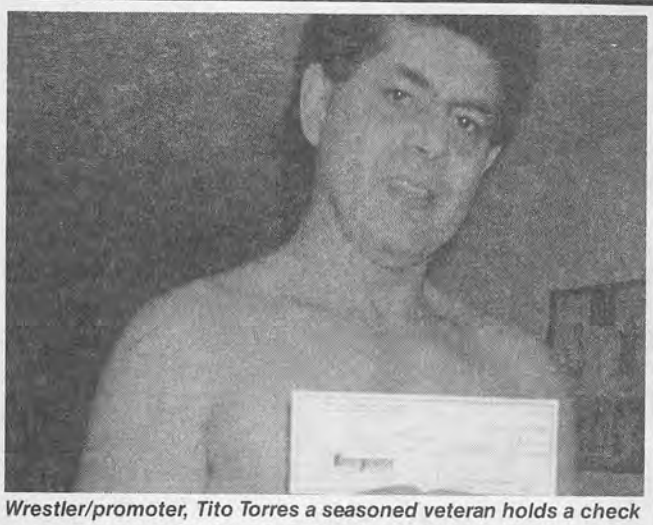
"INDE-PENDENT STARS GALLERY"



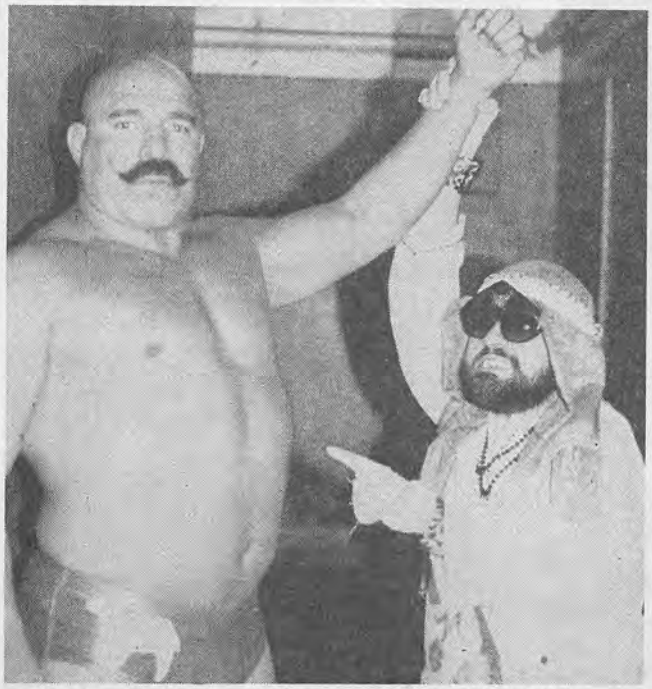
The Cheetah Kid flies out of the ring onto a prone Ron Shaw.



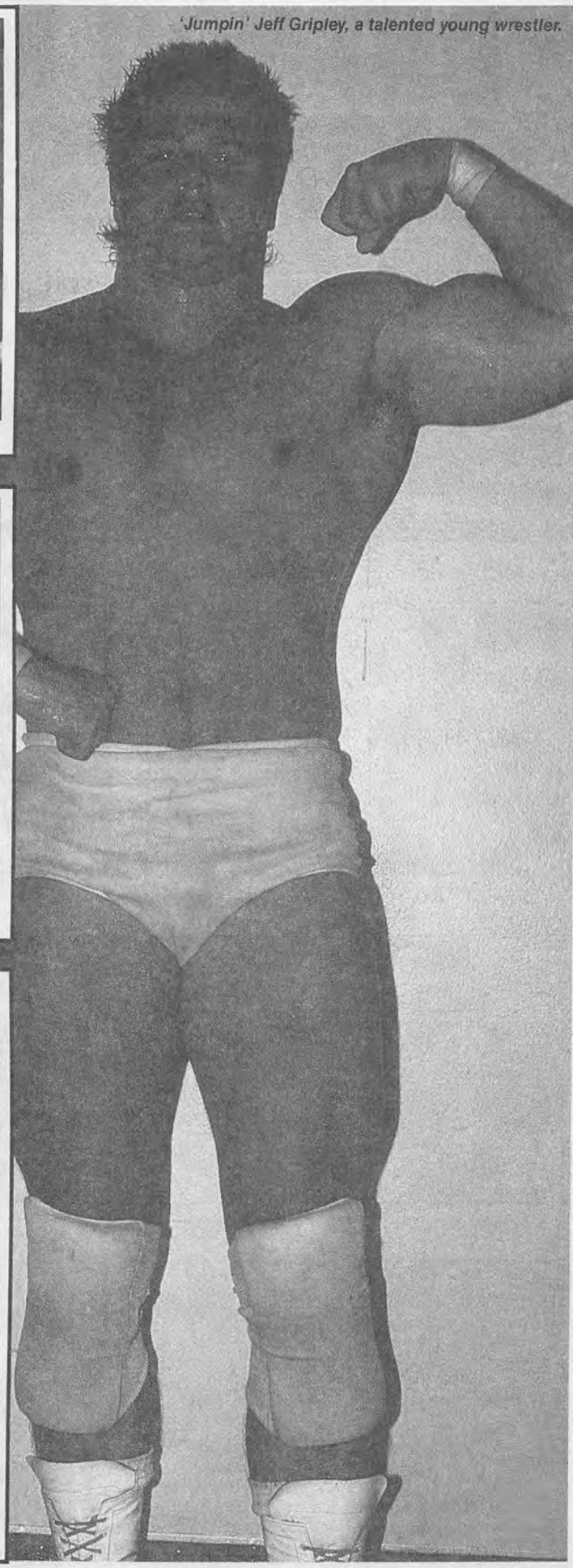
Reminiscent of a fifties grappler, Paul Valentine.



Wrestler/promoter, Tito Torres a seasoned veteran holds a check after winning a battle royal.



The Iron Sheik, along with manager Sheik Ali Abdullah.

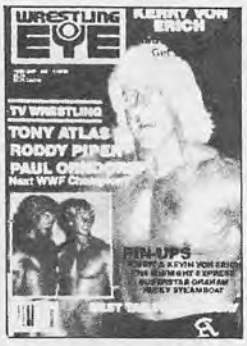


'Jumpin' Jeff Gripley, a talented young wrestler.

DID YOU MISS LAST MONTH'S ACTION?

NOV. '85

JAN. '86



FEB. '86

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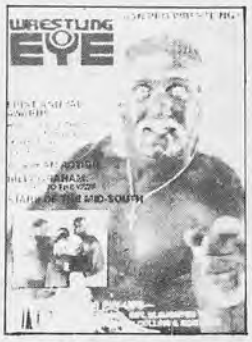

APR. '86

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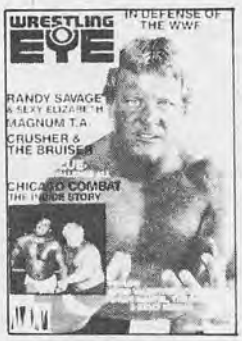

JUNE '86

JULY '86

AUG. '86

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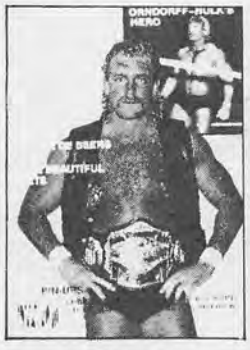
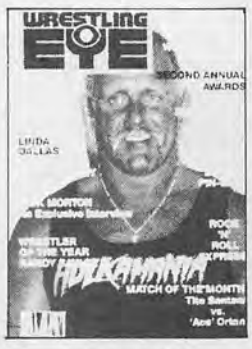


OCT. '86

NOV. '86

DEC. '86

JAN. '87



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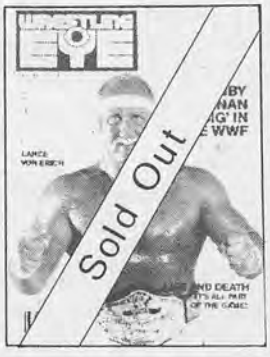

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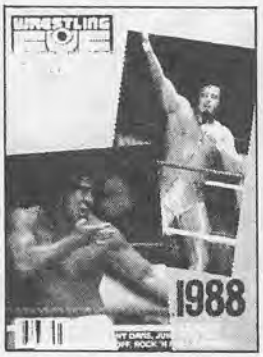

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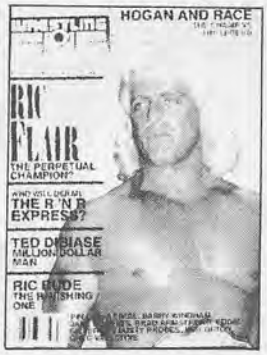

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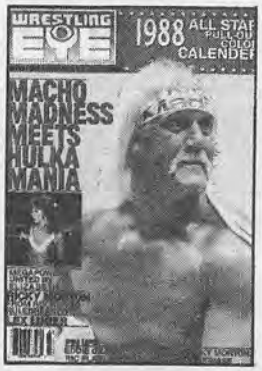

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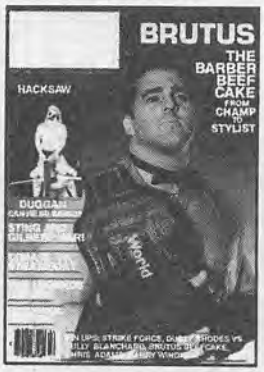

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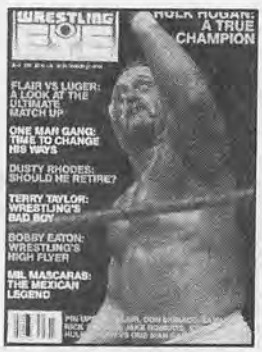

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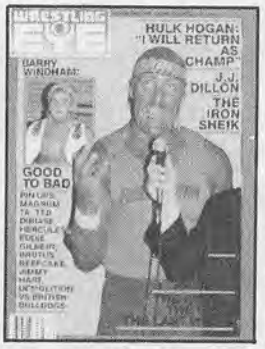

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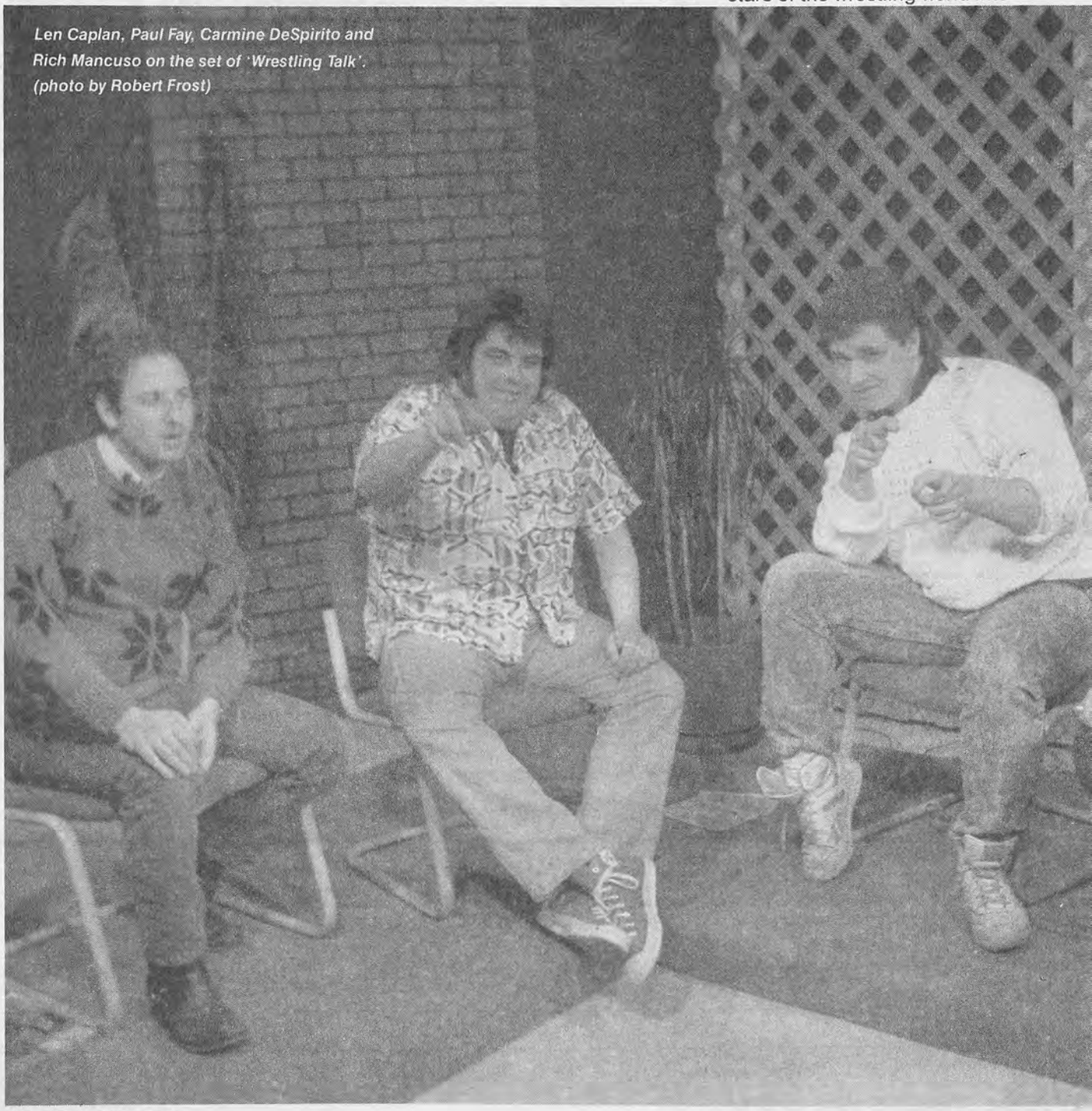
"WRESTLING TALK"

"THE SPORTS FINEST HOUR"

By John Kouletsis

First there was Johnny Carson and Ed McMahon. Then there was David Letterman and Paul Schaffer and now, there is Len Caplan and Paul Fay the two hosts of a new type of talk show on the cable circuit called 'Wrestling Talk'—a no-holds-barred attempt to bring the stars of the wrestling world into

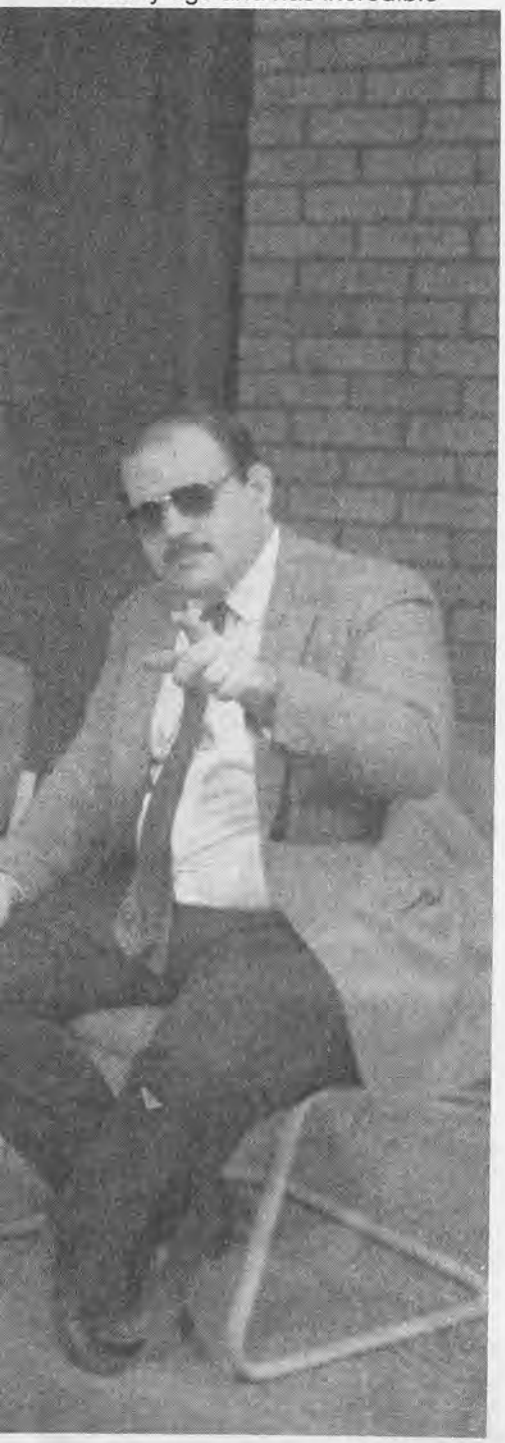


Len Caplan, Paul Fay, Carmine DeSpirito and Rich Mancuso on the set of 'Wrestling Talk'. (photo by Robert Frost)

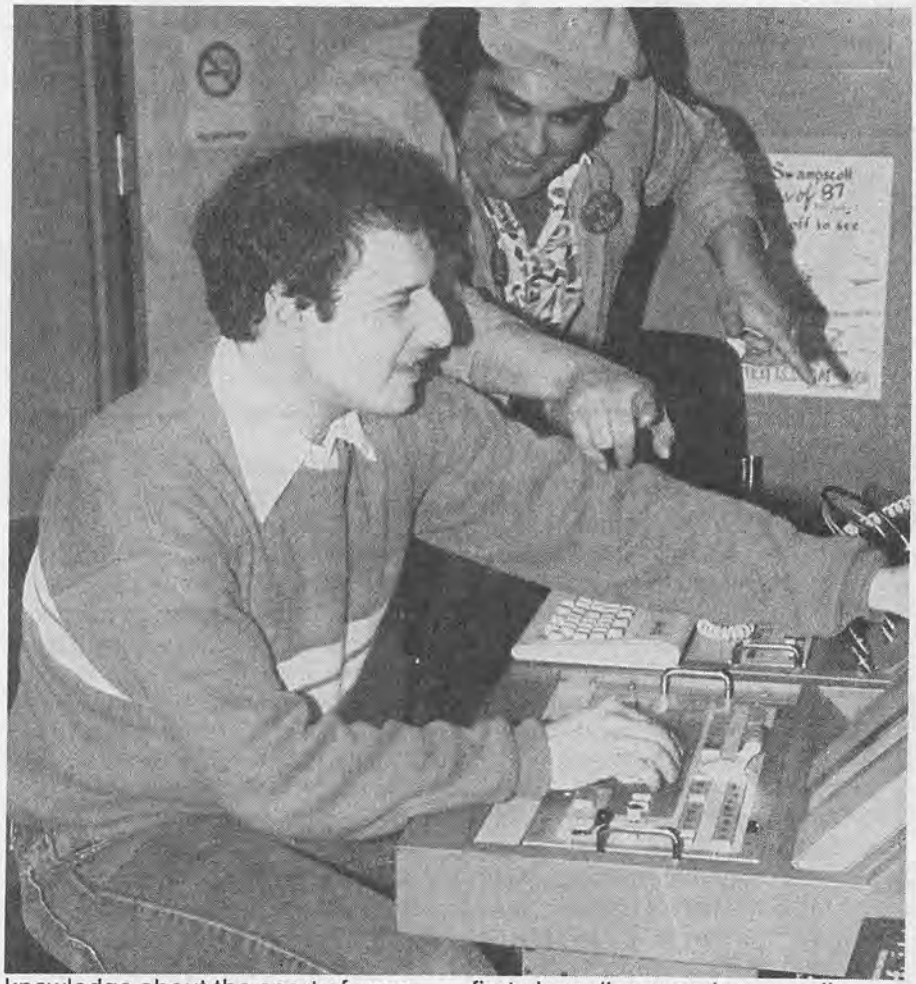
your living room.

It's a fast paced cyclone where anything can happen: Ornery cowboys hurling midgets through the air, evil wrestlers pounding on helpless interviewers, wild women wrestlers breaking crates on people's heads. Oh, no...watch out! It's 'Wrestling Talk'!

The show is hosted by the duo of Leonard Caplan and Paul Fay, two rising stars in the New England area. What's different about the show is that these two take a look at wrestling through the fans' perspective. Len has been a fan from an early age and has incredible



Fay and Caplan joke around in the control room before a broadcast.
(photo by Greg Walsh)



knowledge about the sport of wrestling. Paul has been a wrestling photographer for a number of years and has a more hands-on experience in dealing with the wrestlers themselves. The two make a great tag team combination.

The guest list features a number of top-notch wrestlers, individuals who are involved in the sport, such as Captain Lou Albano, The Iron Sheik, Misty Blue Simms, Referee Dick Woehrle, Ivan Putski, Killer Kowalski, the unpredictable Johnny Rodz, Pretty Boy Larry Sharp, and so on, and so on..... Along with the interviews, the standings in all the federations are updated in a special recap section of the show.

The show is extremely interesting, highly informative and quite unpredictable.

Recently, the editor in chief of this magazine, Carmine DeSpirito along with radio talk show host and journalist, Rich Mancuso were flown to Boston, and escorted by limousine to the studios of "Wrestling Talk". After a hour taping, both gentlemen were treated to a first class dinner and an equally first class flight home. "It was simply a pleasure to be on the show," said Carmine DeSpirito. "Their hospitality and kindness could not have been greater. 'Wrestling Talk' is strictly a classy operation and a first rate television program. 'Wrestling Talk' is definitely a project that will go a long way in this business in the future."

The producers of 'Wrestling Talk' are negotiating with many different cable stations and sponsors on the East coast in an attempt to expand their broadcasts. The producers are also contemplating a 'live' talk show in which fans in the studio can ask questions to their favorite wrestlers.

Don't be surprised if one night while flipping through the channels you see a burly man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and an Indiana Jones canvas hat, sitting beside a subdued, intelligent, yet informative middle aged man. If this does occur either you're watching an old rerun of an "Abbott and Costello" movie or the sport's top talk show, "Wrestling Talk".

SEND ALL LETTERS TO: WRESTLING EYE JEMS INC. P.O. BOX 138 MARLBORO, N.J. 07746 ATT: EDITOR

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I think Bret "Hitman" Hart is making a change for the better. I think Bret should look for a new partner, but remain friends with Neidhart. Some good candidates would be Brutus Beefcake, the Ultimate Warrior, Rick Martel or even HULK HOGAN! Bret is definitely the greatest technician in the ring today. Bret needs to establish some new friends such as Randy Savage and Billy Graham. Graham could take Bret and Muraco to the tag team title! I think Bret could lift the Intercontinental title from the Honky Tonk Man. His piledriver is as good as Paul Orndorff's. I would like to see Bret and Savage wrestle the Honky Tonk Man and Greg Valentine. That would be a classic. Keep up the good magazine!

Gary Parker
Clarklake, Mich.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Hi, I am writing for two reasons. The first is in answer to the question—Do Midgets Have A Right To Wrestle? I believe they do. Sure, they make me laugh, but they are good, skilled wrestlers and I don't think they hurt the sport. I think they add to it. My last question—my favorite wrestlers are Randy Savage, Don Muraco and Greg Valentine. I was wondering if you could tell me where to write to them.

Madeline Tabia
Jackson, NJ

Editors Note: You can write to any of your favorite WWF wrestlers at WWF, P.O. Box 3859, Stamford, Ct 06905

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I hate the Four Horsemen so much that I want to wrestle them myself! I don't care what anybody says, I think they are a stupid bunch of scared idiots. They never can do anything by themselves but run their big mouths!

I especially hate Barry Windham. Anybody that can do what he did to Lex Luger must not have any feelings at all! Also, if he sits there and says he'll bust open Dusty Rhodes' head, a man who was practically his father, he must be really sick!

I think if the Horsemen weren't so scared they might take on some big competition like the Superpowers, Sting, Nikita Koloff, Steve Williams, Dusty Rhodes and Lex Luger.

Please print this because I feel very strongly about it!

Kim Walker
Union, WV

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Hi, what's up? I'm 20 years old. Your magazine is number 1 all the way!

Please print more articles and pin ups on the following wonderful people: Ravishing Rick Rude, Randy Savage, Bobby Heenan, Jimmy Hart and Elizabeth. If it weren't for these wonderful people, I wouldn't watch wrestling under any circumstances.

I would like a special issue devoted to "Rowdy" Roddy Piper because I miss his yelling, screaming and carrying on. I would like a centerfold of Hot Rod! I'll always remember the times he had the WWF rolling with laughter. Hot Rod brought laughter back to me after my grandmother died. I really needed someone to bring me back to life again. I would like to personally thank him for all he did for me. I miss him in the Piper's Pit and wish him the best of luck. Thanks Pal!

Jeanine Sutera
Roselle, NJ

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

First of all I would like to say that I think your magazine is really great. My favorite wrestlers are the Rock 'n Roll Express, especially Robert Gibson. Jim Crockett has to be nuts letting Robert and Ricky leave the NWA. Doesn't he know that he's losing in ticket sales because he let them leave. My friends and I haven't been to an NWA match since Robert and Ricky left and we are not going to an NWA match until they return. I'm sure a lot of other Rock 'n Roll Express fans feel the same way now that they are in the AWA and battling Bad Company. Even when you want to go out and see them wrestle in person, most of the time they are wrestling so far away that you can't go. Jim Crockett, please bring back our Rock 'n Roll Express.

Ginger Daughton
Cherryville, N.C.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Hi, my name is Brande. I, first of all, want to commend you on your excellent work, as always on your magazine. It's always the best and the first one I reach for at the store, so keep it up! Second of all, I want to comment on the recent status of Barry Windham, 4th Horseman. I don't think so. Barry is just a bit messed up and I agree with Sting when he said that Barry needs a bottle of "chill-pills."

As for now, Barry has made a wrong decision. I have proof that he is lying through his teeth just to try and prove (and I use the word try lightly) that he's better than Lex. He stated "I always helped everyone else, but no one ever helped me." Well, in this picture, Jimmy Garvin, Precious and others as-

sisted Barry after a brutal match. Barry has no right making up lies just to make himself feel better. It won't work, Barry. I just have one more thing to say, Barry can "toot his own horn," but if he doesn't watch it, Lex, Sting, Dusty and Nikita and many others are going to personally disconnect his toot and I'll be the first one to clap!

Brande Watson
Charlotte, N.C.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Just got my first issue of your magazine and as to be expected I don't agree with some opinions of others, like the letter from R.J. Blotzer of Mononghela, Pa (June 88) Perhaps Flair has a little more experience than DiBiase but not that much. They both are excellent at getting themselves disqualified in order to keep the titles they have. Any match that Flair wins on his own is usually not a title match.

I'm seventy two years old and have seen a lot of wrestling, both good and bad, but Ric Flair is about the lowest champion I have ever seen. How foolish the Four Jackaasmen look when they hold up the four fingers. Lock them away and let Flair and Sting go at each other. In 10 months time, the NWA would have a new and decent champion.

Roy Powers
So. New Berlin, NY

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I've been a fan of the WWF for a long time and I've seen a lot of changes. The best change was when Brutus Beefcake left Greg Valentine. I always knew Beefcake was good and I knew he could get ahead. Brutus has proven that he's a fantastic wrestler. He just needed some self confidence and now that he's got it, no one or nothing can or will ever stop him. Beefcake deserves a title because he's worked harder than anyone else. I hope someday real soon he'll capture what's really his, the belt. He has a style and determination that will never be duplicated. It can't be, it's all his!

Maryjane K.
Phila, Pa

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I want to say that your magazine is THE BEST! I love it so much because you cover the independent scene so very well. So on that note, I would like to tell you about "Dirty Deeds" Darren Wyse, a manager who is just plain reeking havoc on the East Coast Independent scene. He has a fine stable of grapplers including 6'6", 300 pound Daddy Falcone. He constantly has the fans rowed up and on their feet and many times had fans leaving their seats to try and get their hands on him, much to my displeasure, since I think he's the greatest.

He has also been known to rant and rave and dish out insults with the same quality as Cornette, Albano and former East Coast independent Paul E. Dangerously, but Darren Wyse is gorgeous too. Even my friends who usually hate the bad guys agree that Darren is really and truly something special. I hope you print my letter and hope to see more on my favorite, sexy man, "Dirty Deeds" Darren Wyse.

Paula Benders
Dover, Pa

Dear EDITOR,

Right off the top rope, I'd like to commend your great magazine. I think, above all, the WWF has the greatest talent of all wrestling organizations in the world. You have great veterans such as Harley Race, Greg Valentine and Ted DiBiase. Also, concerning tag teams, I think the Road Warriors and Demolition have one another's strategies and it would be a brutal match between the two.

Last issue you told us two wrestlers real names. Do you know Bam Bam Bigelow's true name. One more question, last issue you told the readers the true identity of Randy Savage. (Randy Poffo) Is he a brother to Leaping Lanny Poffo!

Rob Place
Lancaster, Pa

Editors Note: Bam Bam's real name is Scott Bigelow and yes, Lanny and Randy are certainly brothers.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Since the feud between the WWF and the NWA is not going to end, I feel that the two federations should get together and hold an event. Some of the matches I would like to see include the Road Warriors vs Demolition in a steel cage, Ric Flair vs Ted DiBiase, Barry Windham vs Butch Reed, Nikita Koloff vs Dino Bravo, Dusty Rhodes vs the Honky Tonk Man, the Garvins against the Harts and finally Hercules Hernandez vs Lex Luger in a barbed wire match.

Marcus Paskel
Chicago, Ill

Dirty Deeds Darren Wyse in action.

WRESTLING EYE

Brande Watson wants to prove that Barry Windham is really a liar.

By Tom Clutters

Photos By Brian Razzi

"WENDI RICHTER"

"WILL SHE EVER RETURN TO WRESTLING'S MAINSTREAM?"

Wendi hiptosses the Angel of Death.

With the possible exception of the legendary Fabulous Moolah, no one member of the female pro wrestling fraternity is as easily identified as Wendi Richter. Partly because of her association with rock star Cyndi Lauper, but mostly due to her stunning good looks and wrestling ability, Wendi is recognized as easily as most of her male counterparts.

Once the novelty of the Richter/Lauper association wore off, Wendi has still managed to retain her status as a mat superstar. Without a doubt, Wendi is easily the most visible gal in the sport.

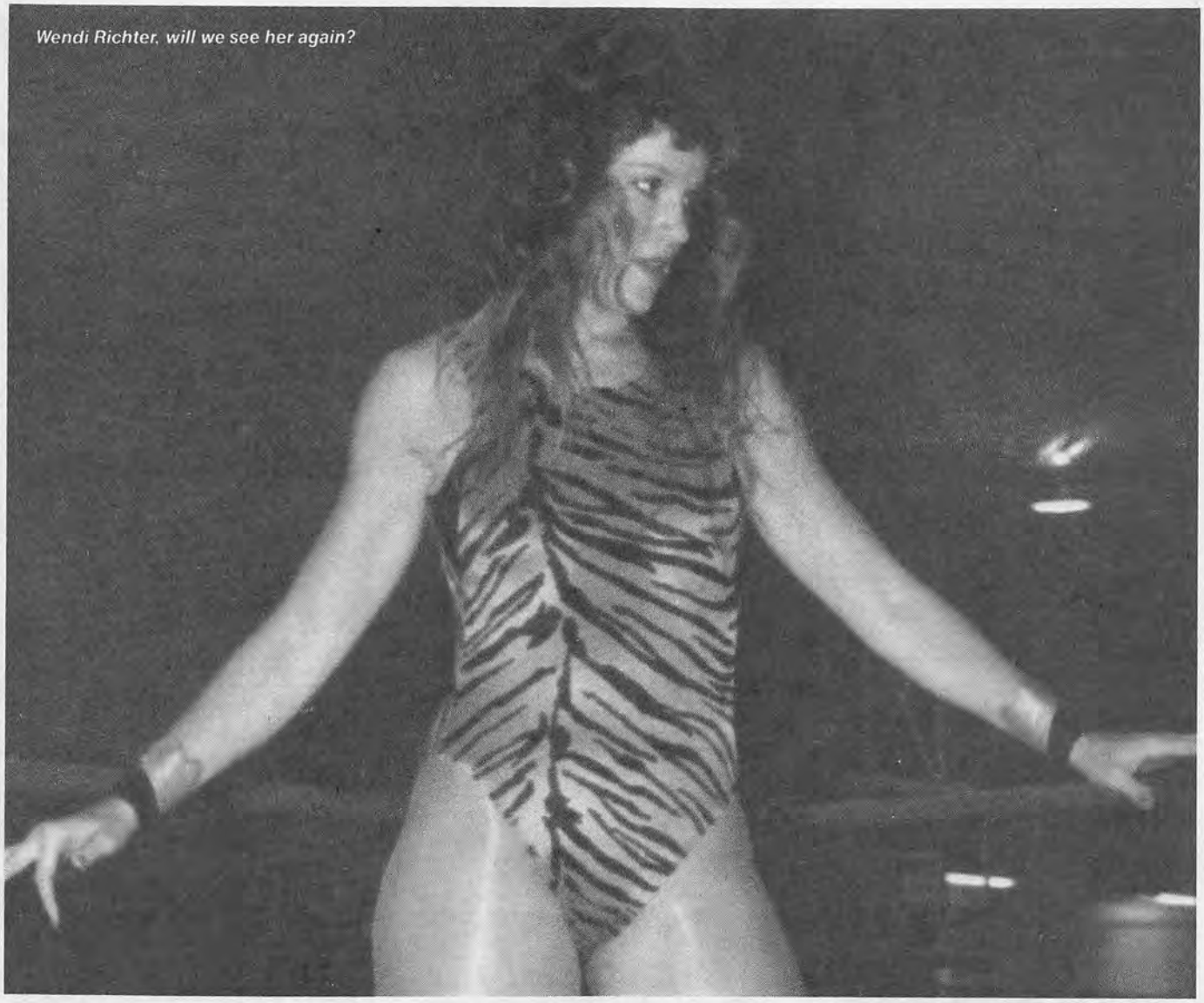
It all began with a "feud" between Lauper and Moolah, a conflict which also involved Captain Lou Albano, who often served as Moolah's manager. Knowing that she would be unable to confront Moolah on her own, Cyndi contacted Richter, who accepted the partnership. The war developed for several weeks, with Moolah eventually bringing in Hawaiian star Le-Lani Kai to do her bidding. Kai and Richter conducted several memorable matches, one of which came during the much-hyped WrestleMania I, sponsored by the World Wrestling Federation. Wendi defeated Kai to claim the WWF women's title, and it launched the female side of the sport into an immense popularity which it still enjoys today.

"That match in WrestleMania was probably the highlight of my career," says Richter. "It gave me a great deal of pride to win the WWF belt, not only for myself, but for the fans, and for Cyndi." Wendi enjoyed a successful title reign, fighting off the challenges of both Kai and Moolah, plus several other stars. In November of 1985, Wendi signed to defend her title against a masked foe known as the Spider Lady. "I had wrestled the Spider Lady before, but there was no way to tell who she was under that mask," recalls Richter. "I had no idea there was something underhanded going on." The masked menace who faced off against the champion in Madison Square Garden that night wasn't the original Spider Lady (Lisa Sliwa), but none other than Moolah herself. The fans at ringside picked up on the disguise rather quickly, but Wendi, with her attentions focused solely on the match at hand, was late catching on. "After a while, I realized it wasn't the same girl I had wrestled before," she said. "But by that time, it was too late to do anything about it."

As it turned out, Wendi lost her title, although she was never pinned. In a lot of ways, the situation was similar to Hulk Hogan's title "loss" to Andre the Giant, but WWF officials, as usual, refused to take positive action. Understandably, Wendi was disgusted. "I just gave up. I quit for about six

Wendi headlocks the Angel of Death.

Wendi Richter, holder of the World's Women's belt.



Wendi Richter, will we see her again?

months. I mean, it was bad enough to lose my title in that way, but for the federation officials to do nothing, well, that was enough for me."

After a while, Wendi began to gradually work her way back into the ring. These days, she's keeping busy defending her NWF title, along with working some independent shows. Although she has no desire to return to the WWF, she admits to being grateful for the experience. "I learned a heck of a lot during the time I spent in the federation. A lot of it was bad, but it still made me a lot smarter." Armed with this knowledge and experience, Wendi is determined to keep women's wrestling on the "front burner". She has been seen on national television as a highlight performer for David McLain's P.O.W.W. organization, which as most observers have noted, is longer on looks than talent. Wendi's chief competition in P.O.W.W. was the mysterious Syrian Terrorist, who was one tough cookie. "I tell you what, the Terrorist was downright nasty," says Richter. "I've met many tough girls, but she has absolutely no remorse about anything she does, and that makes her harder to deal with than a lot of the others." As reigning champion of the Eastern-based NWF, Wendi must constantly fend off the challenges of roughhousers like Chainsaw Liz Chase, Heidi Lee Morgan, and the Angel of Death (female version, of course). "It's tough, no question about that," Wendi says. "Those girls work just as hard, and are just as tough as any of them."

Now that "Sensational" Sherri Martel occupies the WWF throne that was once Wendi's, is there any desire to return to the federation. "Not really. I don't think you ever completely get over it when something like that happens to you," she says. "Sherri Martel has been a champion in two major alliances, so she has to be good, but I don't see any way I'll ever go against her while she's in the WWF." As for AWA champion Medusa Micelli, Richter doesn't rule her out, at least not completely. "The AWA is doing a good job for women's wrestling, and they're giving Medusa a lot of airtime on their TV programs, but I'm not so sure I want to go back into a major federation," she said. "I think she and I would match up pretty well, but there's always the long travel days, the lack of a homelife, and the rest of it. I'm happy with my life, although I do miss getting to see a lot of my friends and fans."

Should Wendi Richter ever decide to move into the limelight once again, it can do nothing but good for her sport. As one of the most popular and talented performers in history, her presence would lend a new strength, not only to any major federation, but to the sport in general. We wish her luck.

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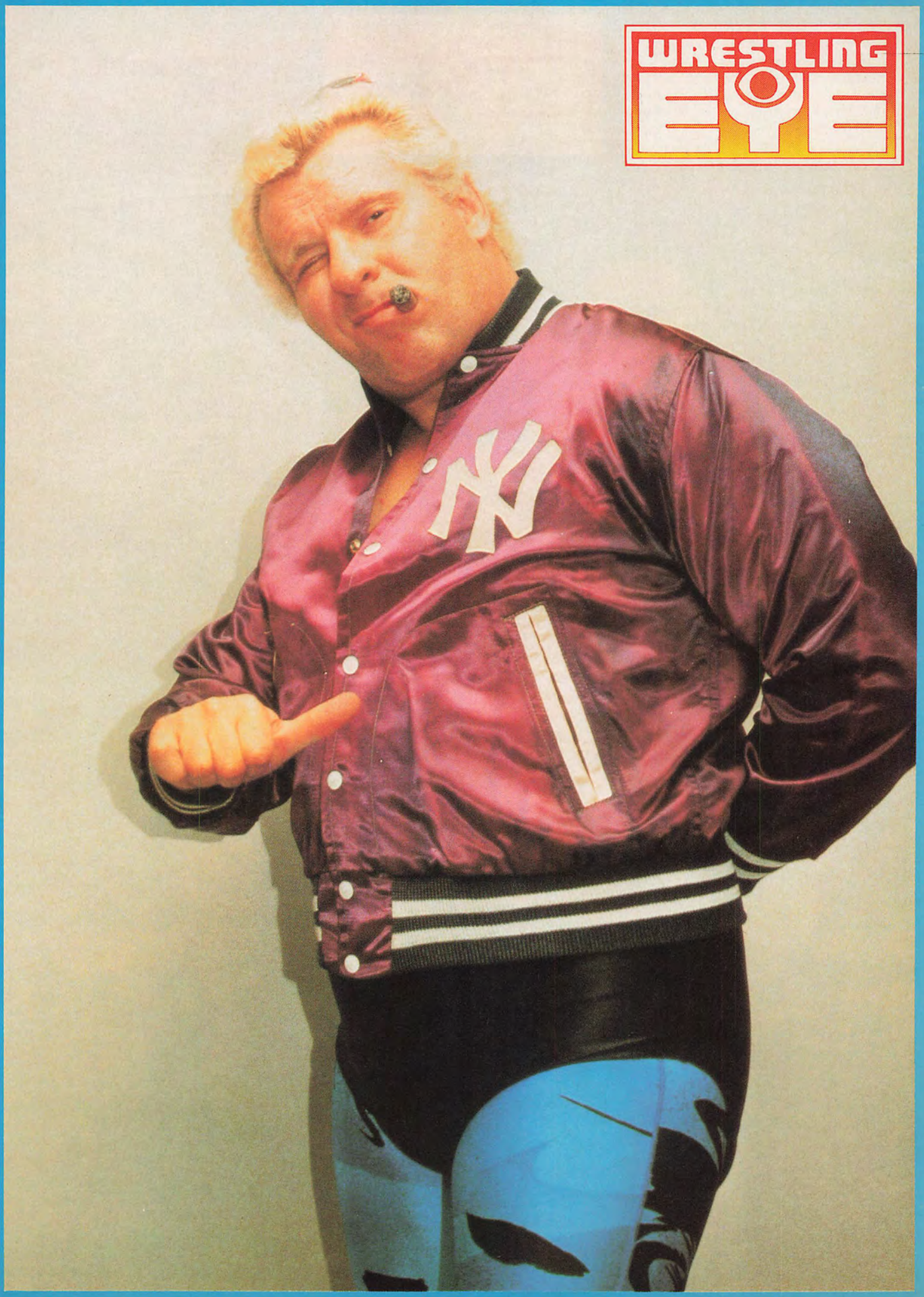

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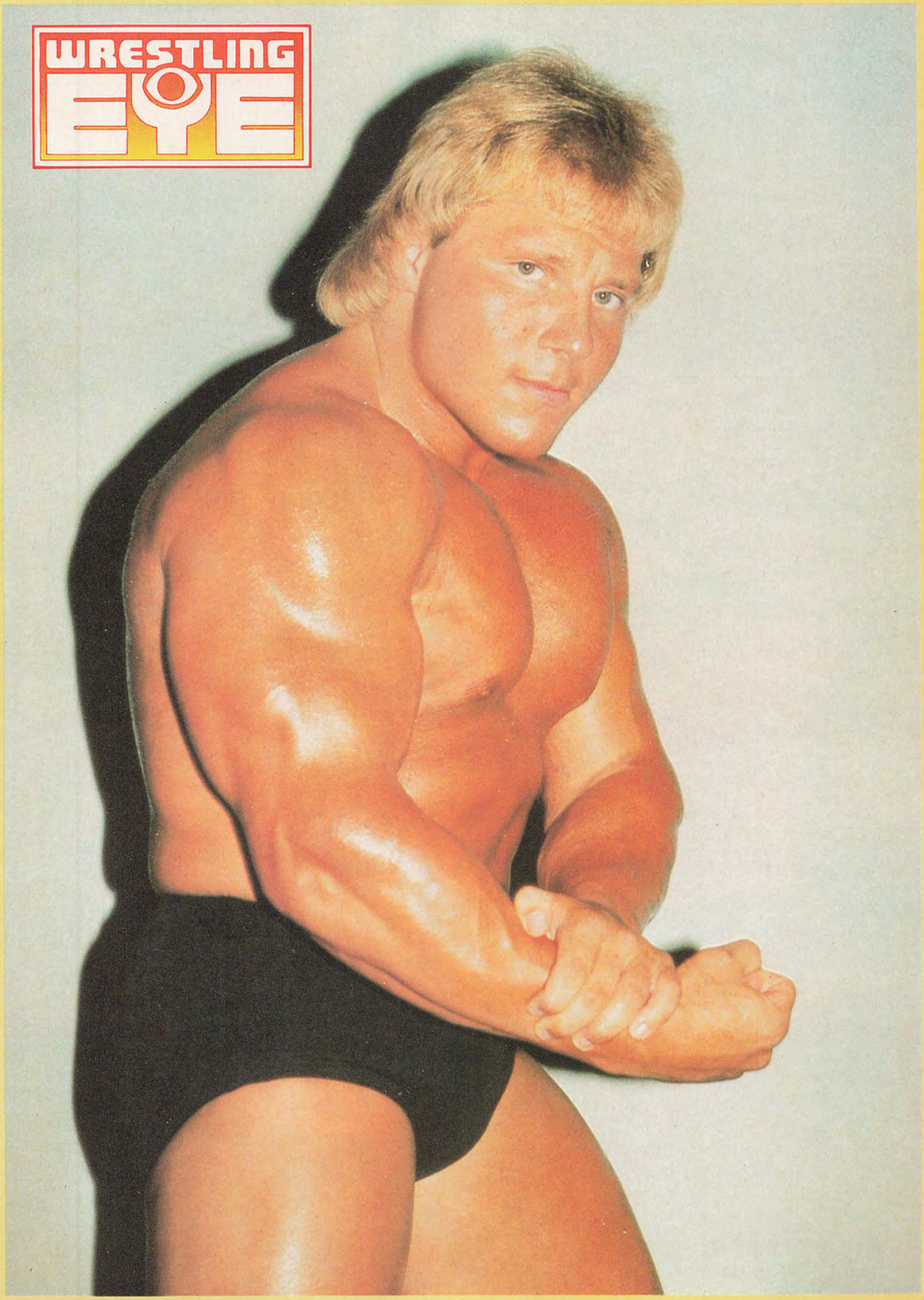

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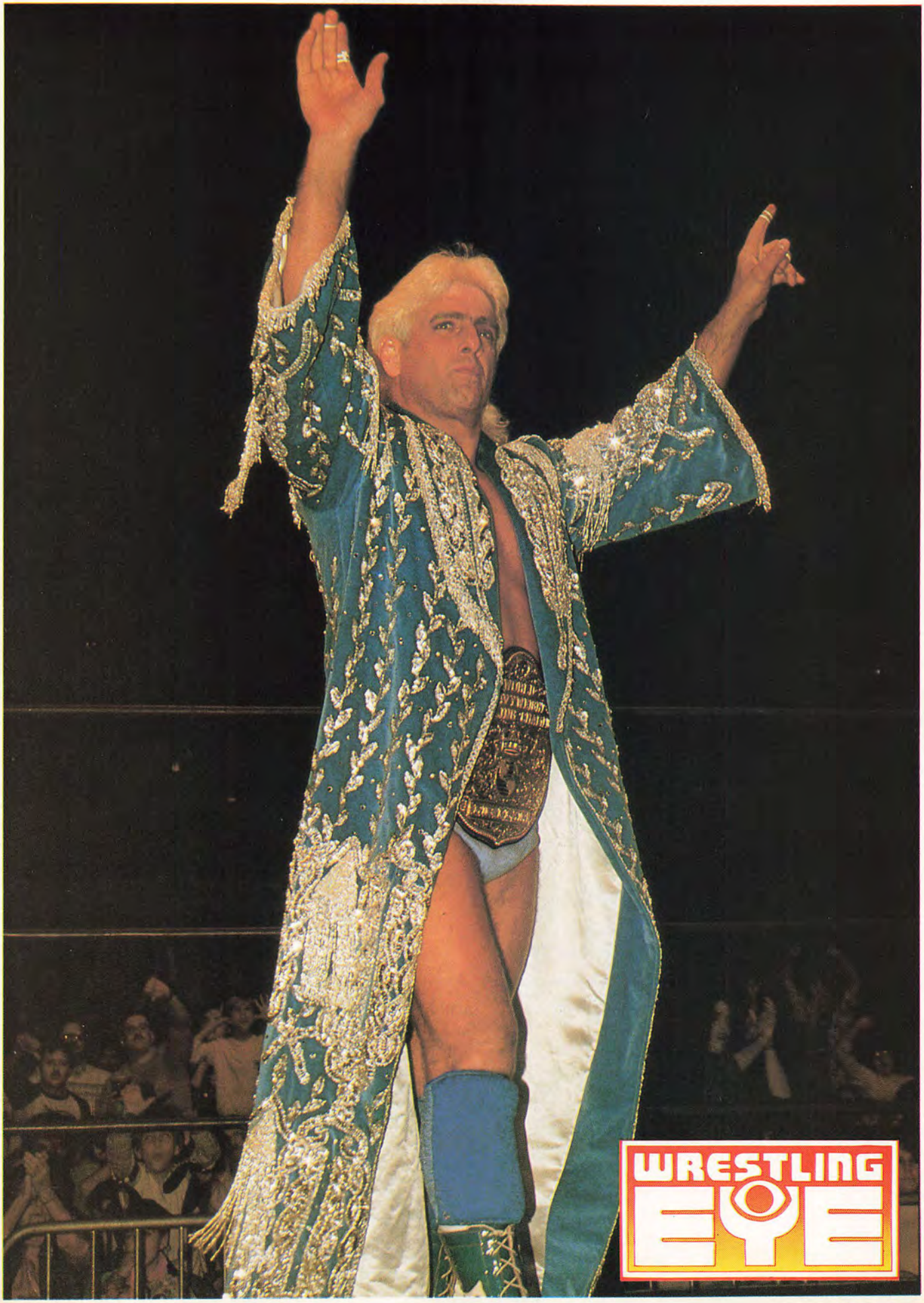

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